The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD

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Contents

Topics of the Day:

SOME CHRISTMAS REFLECTIONS . . . 1021
PROSPECTS OF "CURRENCY REFORM" 1022
A CRISIS IN NEW ENGLAND'S COTTON INDUSTRY 1024
THE CIVIL-SERVICE LAW UNDER FIRE 1026
TOPICS IN BRIEF 1027

Letters and Art:

MURILLO'S PICTURES OF THE INFANT CHRIST 1028
POSSIBILITIES OF THE GERMAN LANGUAGE 1028
AN AMERICAN LYRIC POET 1029
CHAUCER'S UNACKNOWLEDGED DEBT TO BOCCACCIO 1030
THE RETURN OF THE SINGER . . . 1030
A NEW DANIEL COME TO JUDGMENT 1031

Science:

WHY WE KNOW SO LITTLE ABOUT VENUS 1033
HOW MUCH SLEEP DO WE NEED? . . 1033
THE LATEST THING IN DIVER'S ARMOR 1034
A STUDY OF THE EMOTIONS 1034
COMPOSITION OF ANCIENT MIRRORS . 1035
MODERN ALCHEMY 1035
EATING BEFORE GOING TO BED . . 1036
SCIENCE BREVITIES 1036

The Religious World:

WERE THE JEWS RESPONSIBLE FOR CHRIST'S DEATH? 1037
THE METHODIST CONGRESS IN PITTSBURG 1038
EVANGELICAL CATHOLICS IN FRANCE 1038
SHALL THERE BE ANOTHER PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS? 1038
BAPTISTS AND OPEN COMMUNION AGAIN 1040

From Foreign Lands:

SEARCHING FOR THE "GOOD OLD TIMES" 1041
THE FUTURE OF CUBA 1041
EUROPE AND HER "TRANSOCEANIC DANGER" 1042
MUST A GOOD SOLDIER BE A GOOD CHRISTIAN? 1043
THE NAVAL DEMONSTRATION BEFORE PORT-AU-PRINCE 1044
ENGLAND'S FRONTIER WAR IN INDIA 1044
FOREIGN NOTES 1045

Miscellaneous:

NO LEISURE TO GROW WISE . . . 1046
GRANT AND LOGAN 1046
BUSINESS SITUATION 1047
PERSONALS 1047
CURRENT EVENTS 1048
CHESS 1050

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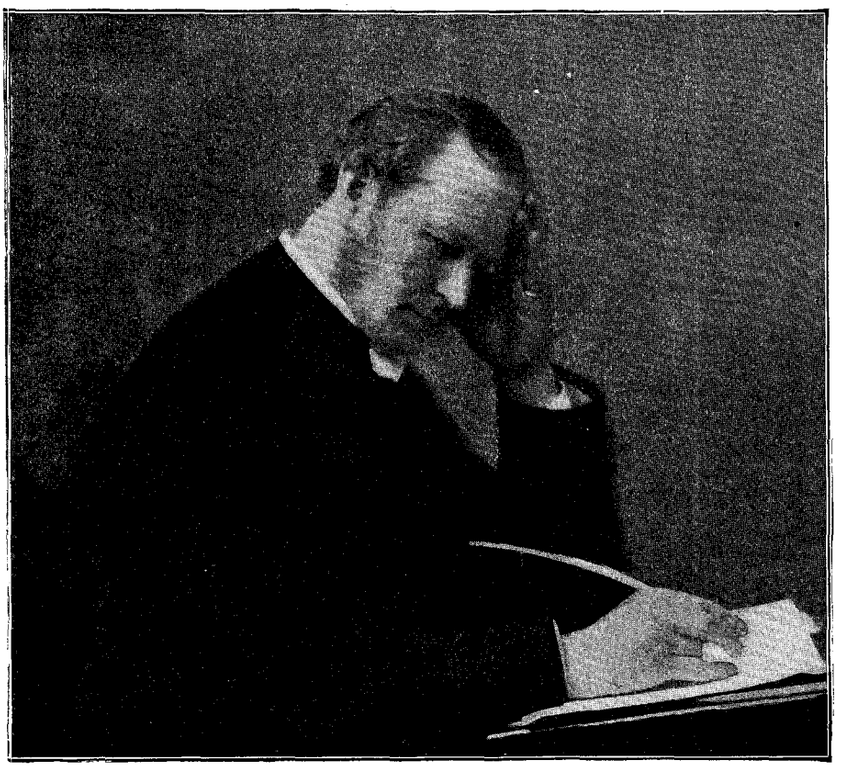

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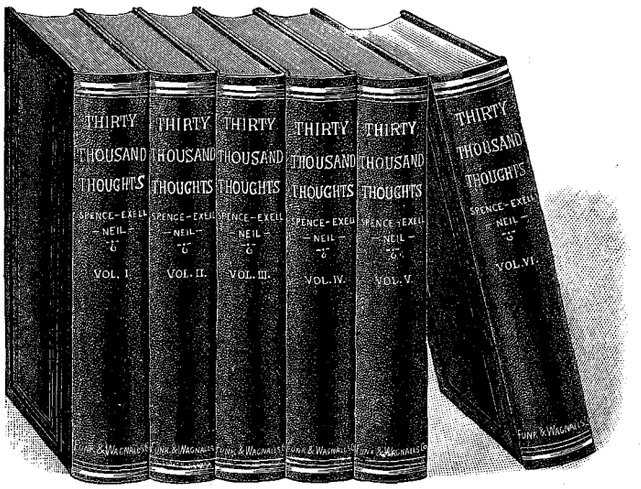

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

SOME CHRISTMAS REFLECTIONS.

WHETHER Santa Claus exists, as the New York *Sun* maintains, or is merely an old tradition, as Rev. Dr. John Hall says, it doth not behoove us to decide. But it is certain that whatever may be true about Santa as a personage, he always exists at this period of the year as one of the "topics of the day," along with various other topics such as, Is the World Growing Better? The Prospects of Universal Peace, and The Joy of Giving. In our department, "From Foreign Lands," this week a German journal goes back to the days of cuneiform inscriptions searching laboriously but vainly all the way along for those "good old days" we have heard so much about. And below we present, as equally appropriate for the merry Christmastide, the words of Rev. Dr. John Hall and of *The Sun* on the subject of Santa Claus, and the pessimistic reflections of a not too solemn editor in the Brooklyn *Eagle* on the state of the world in general as we near Christmas day.

An Old Tradition.—"Santa Claus is merely an old tradition. His great specialty is the bringing of gifts. That is his only excuse for living. Without his pack the merry old fellow would hardly be welcome anywhere.

"Our Christmas exercises are of a simple and impressive character, and show the children the real reason why we observe the day. There is much more than the mere idea of giving gifts. When we reflect on the beautiful lessons of the Nativity, we see that the Santa Claus is merely one of those adjuncts which custom allows to cling to the day.

"We propose to have our Christmas day from this idea of Santa Claus. It is a day sacred to the Lord, and there is no reason why any secular idea should be mingled with it. Children will gladly absorb the religious lessons of this day if their minds are not distracted by the notion of Santa Claus bringing gifts which could as well be given at some other time if it be really necessary that they should be given at all.

"I know this view of the question arouses some prejudice, but it should not. Every Christian should be glad to do the utmost honor to the day, and the time will come when it will be stripped of the secular sports which now constitute such a large portion of the observances in many cases. I know many others among the clergy who have given the matter careful thought and agree with me."—DR. JOHN HALL, *Pastor Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, in the Journal, New York.*

"Is There a Santa Claus?"—"We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of *The Sun:*

"'DEAR EDITOR: I am eight years old.
"'Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.
"'Papa says, "If you see it in *The Sun* it's so."
"'Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?
"'VIRGINIA O'HANLON.
"'115 WEST NINETY-FIFTH STREET.'

"Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole truth and knowledge.

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

"Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

"You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

"No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."—*The Sun, New York.*

"Whatever Is, Is Wrong."—"The world is in a condition of unrest. Not only are the bantams of nationality defying the roosters of power and raising Cain in the hennery of affairs, but the sciences are all agog. Dr. Abbott lately made assault and battery on Jonah, with intent to mythify him. Dr. Behrends at once rallied sturdily to the defense of the prophet, who should at

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least be remembered as a friend and exponent of rapid transit. Dr. Abbott has now returned to the work of making Paul as well-known and as respected as Martin Farquhar Tupper, while Dr. Patton of Princeton is to preach in the Classon Avenue Presbyterian Church on the night of December 16 on the creeds of Christendom, with a special defense of the Westminster standards, whereof the poetic refrain hath long been: 'You can and you can't, You will and you won't, You'll be damned if you do, And you'll be damned if you don't.'

"In the same way, but in less speculative sciences than theology, the great germ theory is playing havoc with hope and with comfort. According to one man, milk spells typhoid fever. Another declares that undiluted water is the most dangerous thing in the world. Witnesses to the perils of undiluted whisky spring up on every hand and claim a right to denounce that beverage on the singular ground that a drop of it never passed their lips. Similarly tea has been attacked, coffee contemned, cocoa censured, and even gin has been made the object of disrespectful reference. Edibles, as well as drinkables, have come to judgment. White meat is weakening and reduces muscle. Red meat makes gout. Fried meat is a factor of indigestion. Boiled meat conduces to obesity. Roasts and broils can only be neutralized by an insane degree of exercise. In short, vegetables alone should be eaten. On the contrary, however, the vegetarian nations are notoriously the enslaved nations in which women are religiously rated as inferior to rats, or they are the polygamous nations without bargain counters and other incentives to competitive examination of matters inscribed: 'For $5, reduced to 9½ cents.'

"The business world is quite upset, too. If we do not have currency reform, we are going to have immortal smash. Nevertheless, 'any action which is hostile to silver will be a betrayal of man's rights to nature's money.' In the same way, if the Dingley bill be let alone, our expenses will exceed our receipts; while, if it be tampered with, an offense will be committed, by comparison with which sacrilege will be made synonymous with sanctification and blasphemy with benediction. If the trusts are interfered with, property will be 'paralyzed' and 'politics will become robbery,' while if they are not interfered with 'individuality will be effaced,' and 'the money power will be enthroned in mastery on the necks of toiling and squirming masses.' If the millionaires are annoyed, the millions will be ruined, but if the millions are not made comfortable, millionaires will have to take to organ-grinding for a living. There is no department of business or of labor in which or as to which the motto, 'Whatever Is, Is Wrong,' does not appear to have play and sway.

"The political world is also topsy-turvy. Democracy is both destiny and diabolism. Republicanism is likewise righteousness and rottenness. Municipal ownership is the winning card, while aldermen are giving away railroads in all directions. In the same manner, Populism is a panacea for every ill and withal the embodiment of every peril. There is no party which is not absolutely right and entirely wrong except two—the Prohibitionists, who lack votes, and the Women-Suffragists, who can not obtain the ballot.

"We trust that matters will become better before *The Eagle* for Christmas shall make its appearance, as it would be very unfortunate at that time, and in that issue, to simulate a cheerfulness that had no foundation in fact and to invent causes for universal happiness in lieu of the existence of none."—*The Eagle, Brooklyn.*

PROSPECTS OF "CURRENCY REFORM."

CURRENCY reform, given first place in the President's message, is the subject of apparently endless debate in the newspapers. Broadly speaking, the demands now being made for changes in the currency laws are for the retirement of greenbacks and the extension of bank privileges. The published proposals for securing these objects vary to a confusing extent. The attitude of the Administration has been disclosed in the President's recommendations quoted in these columns last week, and in the plan proposed by Lyman J. Gage, Secretary of the Treasury, which became public weeks before his formal report was made to Congress in regular session [see THE LITERARY DIGEST, November 20]. The Secretary proposes, as a part of his plan, an issue of low-rate gold bonds to enable the Government to take up $200,000,000 of its demand obligations, which now exists in the form of currency. The President, while expressing no opinion on this proposed issue of bonds, gives approval to that part of the Secretary's plan that provides for the reissue of greenbacks in exchange for gold alone. Both take the view that issues of bank-notes should be permitted beyond the present limit of 90 per cent. of the government bonds deposited for security; that the tax on circulation be decreased; and that national banks be allowed to organize on a minimum capital of $25,000 instead, as now, on a minimum of $50,000. Secretary Gage would have government redemption for all notes, even when issued on bank assets; but the President recommends that national banks be required to redeem their own notes in gold.

The initiative in currency legislation rests with the committee on banking and currency of the House of Representatives. Besides the recommendations of the President and Secretary Gage, this committee will be called upon to consider the suggestions of the Indianapolis monetary commission.

Secretary Gage's plan was embodied in a bill reported for printing last week. He summarized the objects of his bill as follows:

"First, to commit the country more thoroughly to the gold standard; remove, so far as possible, doubts and fears on that point, and thus strengthen the credit of the United States both at home and abroad.

"Second, to strengthen the Treasury in relation to its demand liabilities, in which are included greenbacks, treasury notes, and the incidental obligation to maintain on a parity, through interchangeability with gold, so far as may be necessary, the present large volume of silver certificates and silver dollars.

"Third, to do this in such a way as not to contract the volume of circulation in the hands of the people.

"Fourth, to take an initial step toward a system of bank-note issues without the conditional deposit of public bonds as security therefor. If we prosper as a people, the revenue of the Government ought to be somewhat in advance of its expenditures, and the public debt of the United States gradually reduced and finally extinguished. Looking at the question widely, from my best point of knowledge and experience, I feel that if these could be secured the condition of the Government, in its relation to the currency, would be much safer and stronger than now, and that through the operation of national bank-note currency the commercial and industrial interests of the United States would be greatly advantaged."

Chairman Walker (Rep.) of the banking and currency committee says of Secretary Gage's plan, that the "game is not worth the candle," because:

First, Congress will not authorize a gold bond for any purpose. Second, to constitute an "issue department" would amount only to a change of bookkeeping, existing obligations, and the proposed national bank issues as well, being payable in gold. Third, bonds can not be used in any conceivable way as a security for circulating currency notes and not work to the interest of the low-interest localities and against that of localities where interest is high. "The people demand and will soon have from some party the same liberty of giving and receiving each other's notes as they had before the Civil War, in the old state-bank system, with all the securities possible, and under national law and national supervision and national guaranty of every dollar of currency issued, as now."

Senator Chandler (Rep.) of New Hampshire, in an open letter to the Washington *Post*, says that if Congress will let the currency alone, pass the appropriation bills, and take care of Cuba and Hawaii, business will revive, government receipts equal expenditures, the balance of trade continue in our favor, and the Republican Party will control the House after the elections in 1898. But—

"if Secretary Gage continues to press upon Congress a bill, the object of which he says is, 'first, to commit the country more thoroughly to the gold standard,' and the immediate effect of which is to throw doubts upon the sincerity of the President's

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declarations in favor of continued efforts to secure bimetalism, a political turmoil will arise in Congress which will split the now united Republicans into fragments, while it will unite and consolidate the now incongruous opposition. It is not feasible to retire the greenbacks; there is more probability that a bill will be sent to the President to increase their amount. It is not possible to secure the passage through either House of a bill making the greenbacks into gold notes, or authorizing bonds payable in gold. The effort to do either thing will probably result in the passage of a bill for the redemption of the greenbacks in silver dollars and for the payment of all United States bonds in gold or silver coin, in the discretion of the President, who will be commanded to exercise his option for the advantage of the Government and not for the advantage of the creditor.

"With such an uproar in Congress as these proceedings will create, with Western Congressmen embroiled therein, with Presidential vetoes as threatened by Secretary Gage under angry discussion, it will happen that all business enterprises and funds and stocks will be disturbed, prices will fall, insolvencies will increase, and the Republicans will lose the Congressional elections in 1898 as disastrously as they did in 1890, and beyond the hope of a favorable reaction in 1900, at which time, therefore, a Bryan Democratic President and Congress will be chosen."

No plan will come before the House for action until after the holiday recess. Caucuses of Democratic and Populist members have already announced their opposition to retirement of greenbacks and enlargement of the powers of national banks. If sufficient Republican support be secured to carry any plan of currency reform through the House, the composition of the Senate makes the fate of such a measure doubtful.

Currency Reform Must Come.—"It is sometimes said by those who magnify obstacles rather than look to achievements that no currency-reform measure can get through the Senate at this time, and therefore it is not worth while to make any effort in the House. This is the counsel of the pigeon-hearted and the lily-livered. Poltroonery wins no victories. Marching by the rear is not the way to take batteries.

"We do not know what we can do till we try, but if we make no attempt most assuredly we reap no gain. Admit all that can be urged in respect to senatorial inertia, and yet the task before the reformers is not more difficult than that which President Cleveland encountered in the repeal of the Sherman law. Antecedently everybody thought the repeal must fail because the administration could not command full party support on the question. But patriotism lies deeper and is far more potent than partyism. When the emergency arose enough Republican Senators voted for the measure to carry it, and sacrificed party for the sake of their country.

"So we may hope it will be when patriotic Democratic Senators are put to the test. Reform is in the air, and sooner or later it must come, for so the people have declared. And Congressmen will do well to remember that unless some measure of currency reform is adopted by the present Congress the next House of Representatives will not be Republican."—*The Times-Herald* (*McKinley Ind.*), *Chicago.*

Blocking the Way.—"If the faddist and theorists of the banking, and currency committee could get a glimmer of common sense, they would lay aside their various projects for a subversive revision of our currency system, and promptly report a short and simple bill to carry out President McKinley's recommendation that United States notes when redeemed in gold shall be set apart, and only paid out in exchange for gold. As outlined by the President, the provision is not to go into operation until 'the receipts of the Government are quite sufficient to pay all the expenses of the Government,' but in the present condition of the Treasury, with an available cash balance of $227,000,000, we can not see that there would be any risk of embarrassment in putting it into effect at once. The sooner the better, to our thinking.

"The President's recommendation with regard to the redeemed notes has been received with marked approval by the public. In the sound-money press, so far as our observation goes, not a voice has been raised against it, and business men are practically unanimous in its favor. We are no way surprised at this, for the proposal is not open to objection from any reasonable point of view. There is no inflation in it. There is no contraction in it. Unlike other schemes in connection with the currency, it affords no opening for private gain at the expense of the Government. In short, it is entirely admirable, and its launch in the House should be made with all possible speed, so that it can have full advantage of the tide of business opinion now running so strong in its favor.

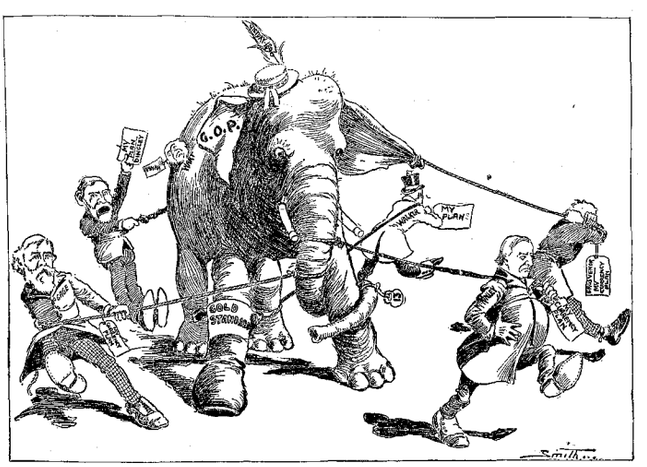
"But, unfortunately, the currency tinkers of the banking and currency committee have obtained control of the matter, and, instead of rising to the level of the financial and parliamentary opportunity, they have laid aside the President's simple plan for the improvement of the currency and plunged headlong into a bewildering maze of projects for a general revision of our banking system. It is a world's pity. If Speaker Reed could exert any pressure to bring them to their senses on this question, his interference would be very grateful to the business community."—*The Herald* (*Ind.*), *Boston.*

Sound-Money Forces Must Work Together.—"There is no serious doubt that Speaker Reed will make an opportunity for it in the House, where the sound-money men are in a clear majority. Forty-five votes are necessary in the Senate. The Republican Senators—all sorts—muster forty-three strong. Several of the silver men on that side of the Senate have, it is said, indicated their readiness to vote for a bill substituting a sound and adequate bank-note circulation for the greenbacks. 'A majority can be found in the Senate for intelligent legislation,' we are told, 'if the body of Northern Republicans put their shoulders to the wheel in its behalf. The Eastern Democratic Senators would assume a heavy responsibility, their action would tend to sound the final knell of their party in the Northeast, if they should refuse to furnish the necessary half-dozen votes to make up for Republican losses.'

"The sound-money men in the Senate and House, Republicans and Democrats, should put their shoulders to the wheel without delay and sturdily. The McKinley Administration should put its shoulder to the wheel, as its predecessor did when the business in hand was the stopping of the foolish and mischievous Treasury purchases of silver bullion. The great commercial bodies and business interests of the country should vie with one another in putting their shoulders to the wheel. That's the way to move things in the right direction, and it's the only way."—*The Courant* (*Rep.*), *Hartford, Conn.*

A Painstaking Plan.—"The part of the general plan of the Secretary which was evidently the result of the most painstaking study is the eight-point provision for encouraging the national banks to enlarge their circulation and give to it the element of elasticity or adaptability to the actual currency needs of time and place. . . . The argument is that under the plan no retirement of government notes will be possible except as the volume of money in circulation is kept good by some other form of money, coin, government paper, or bank bills; also that a system of guaranty is elaborated which would be an absolute protection to the bill-holder from any loss. In other words, the Gage plan guards against all danger of a recurrence of wild-cat money, such as the country was cursed with before the war and as the Democratic Party indorsed in its platform of 1896.

"It is the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to present in clear outline what he regards as the additional financial legislation best fitted to promote the welfare of the country, and now the part of statesmanship in Congress is to secure the very best



THE BEWILDERED ELEPHANT: "Where, in the name of the Prophet, am I at?" —*The News, Denver.*

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legislation practicable under existing conditions."—*The Inter Ocean (Rep.), Chicago.*

A Poor Imitation.—"We understand the scheme which proposes that the Government should issue all the money used by the people. We understand the idea of giving national banks a monopoly of note issues. We understand the idea of free banking, which would remit the issue of money to the people through credit agencies, in response to the demands of trade. We do not understand the sense of Mr. Gage's hybrid proposition of throwing these three different ideas into one pudding. Nobody finds sense in it, because there is none there. He is simply an imitator of the financiers of the war time. He chooses to imitate their mistakes, of which the issue of greenbacks was one and the authorization of national bank-notes was another, and he even imitates them very badly."—*The Globe (Nat. Dem.), St. Paul.*

Mr. Gage in 1878.—"Mr. Gage has changed his views since 1878. But the citations he gave us in 1878 [referring to a pamphlet issued by the 'Honest Money League of the Northwest,' Lyman Gage, treasurer] against irredeemable greenbacks must hold good to-day against the single-gold standard. He may insist that he knows more now on the financial question than he knew in 1878, but he said then that gold and silver was the coinage of the Constitution. That was the statement of a fact rather than the expression of an opinion, and Mr. Gage can not change the fact as readily as he changed his opinion. He can not erase the record that Salmon P. Chase and Abraham Lincoln acknowledged that gold and silver coinage was the coinage of the Constitution; nor that Spalding declared the greenback to be redeemable in gold and silver; nor that the United States Supreme Court declared that the dollar promised to be paid by the greenback is the 'coin dollar of the United States; a certain weight and fineness of gold or silver.' These stand as forcible and powerful in the way of argument in 1897 as they were in 1878.

"But a review of Mr. Gage's 1878 document would be incomplete without reference to another citation therein made. To-day Mr. Gage urges that the banks be given the exclusive right to issue paper money. In his 1878 pamphlet Mr. Gage quoted from John Stuart Mill: 'Whatever anybody makes by issuing paper money, somebody else must lose.' That being true in 1878 it must be equally true in 1897. And the people generally will prefer that if any loss is to be entailed by anybody by the issue of paper money, and any gain to be obtained, that the Government, rather than the banks, shall enjoy the benefit."—*The World-Herald (Dem.), Omaha.*

"Secretary Gage's financial recommendations have the unique experience of largely failing to receive the approval of his chief in the Administration, of being discredited by the party leaders in Congress, and of being regarded asi mpracticable under existing conditions by the very class he naturally expected would heartily approve them as sound and timely. Taking the most favorable view, the currency part of Secretary Gage's report is the academical discussion of a theorist and not practical financial statesmanship."—*The Plain Dealer (Dem.), Cleveland.*

"By this time it should be evident to all that the currency question is still the great issue before the country. And the President shows no inclination to grapple boldly with it. The American people like a bold man, no matter what his views may be. President McKinley is not such a man."—*The Herald (Silver Dem.), Salt Lake City.*

"Whether or no currency-reform legislation is likely to be effected during the present session of Congress, it is worth repeating and bearing constantly in mind that the only sensible thing to do is to reach a conclusion concerning what, in the minds of the Republicans, is possible of accomplishment under the peculiar Senatorial conditions, and then concentrate effort on that feature unembarrassed by others."—*The Mail and Express (Rep.), New York.*

"None will doubt the strong and sincere conviction of the Secretary that what he proposes is for the public welfare, but the brief recommendation of the President is much more likely to command the attention of Congress at this session than a plan which looks toward, and indeed begins, a complete revolution in the currency system."—*The Tribune (Rep.), New York.*

"It is plain that the President is in no hurry to have them [the Republicans] reach an agreement or he would not in effect recommend them to postpone action until the revenues catch up with the expenditures."—*The Chronicle (Dem.), Chicago.*

Greenbacks and Party.—"The issue of legal-tender notes—greenbacks are their popular name—by the Government, and their retention as a medium of circulation, has occasioned a complete shifting of parties in regard to them. These notes were created by act of Congress in 1862. The legal-tender act was regarded as a 'war measure,' made necessary by the existing conditions of the country. The best constitutional lawyers in Congress agreed that the bill was unconstitutional. It was passed, however, by the Republican Party, and by that party upheld and defended before the country.

"After the war the law got before the Supreme Court of the United States and was declared unconstitutional. The membership of the Supreme Court was soon increased by two judges, a rehearing was granted, and the former decision was reversed, and the validity of the law sustained. Subsequent opinions affirmed the right of the federal Government to issue legal-tender notes at any time that it saw fit to do so.

"Thirty-five years have elapsed since the legal-tender act became a law. The party that called it into existence and defended it so many years is now striving to repeal it, and place the currency-issuing power in the hands of the banks. The Democratic Party is opposing the withdrawal of the notes. Of course there are individual exceptions on both sides, but this is the party alinement. It was because the banks were utterly unable to meet the demands upon them that the legal-tender act became necessary. Now the banks ask for its repeal, but who shall say that the banks, in case of another such a national crisis as that of 1861–62, will not be just as impotent as they were at that time to render assistance to the federal Government?

"The demand for the repeal of the greenback act comes from the money power, not the people. The position of the Republican Party on the issue demonstrates its subserviency to that power. Allied with it are the so-called gold Democrats, of which Mr. Eckels is the most shining exponent. His recent report outlines the position of the money power, and indicates its purpose to gain complete control of the money-issuing power. To antagonize this purpose is the duty of every man who would not see the country enslaved."—*The News (Bryan Pop.), Denver.*

A CRISIS IN NEW ENGLAND'S COTTON INDUSTRY.

FALL RIVER cotton manufacturers have decided to reduce wages and perhaps salaries about 10 per cent. at the beginning of the new year, and a similar cut is expected to follow throughout the New England mills. The claim that Southern competition has brought about this crisis attracts much newspaper comment. The most important statement regarding the situation appears in the report of a committee of experts who made an investigating tour of the South and have come to the conclusion that New England mills can only be run profitably by establishing a wage scale approximating that of the South, which is said to be about 40 per cent. less than the scale prevailing in New England. This committee found Southern mills well built and equipped, actual rivals of those in the North in all departments. Operators not only receive less pay, but legal hours of work are longer than in New England, and there is no disposition to organize labor unions. The committee considers that the factors of freight charges, taxation, or exemption from taxes and cheaper coal as against a diminishing water power are of relatively small importance beside the cheap labor, long hours, and freedom from legislative interference, and the committee recommends an immediate application to the New England legislatures for a repeal of the law limiting the hours of labor in cotton factories to fifty-eight. Employees' organizations, however, insist upon a shut-down instead.

New England Losing Ground.—"In justification of the 10-per-cent. cut in wages ordered as a New Year's gift of Republican prosperity to their employees, the New England cotton-mill

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owners dolefully set forth the inroads made upon their business by the Southern cotton factories.

"This increasingly successful competition of the South in this industry is credited by the New Englanders to cheaper labor. Even if this were all, it would be gloomy enough for New England, because the reason for the cheapness of labor in the South is the lesser cost there of the necessities of life. Food is cheaper; fuel and clothing are less needed; rents are lower, and comparative luxuries can be enjoyed by all. Consequently, the laborer can work for lower money wages. And if the New England factories expect to get their labor at the same rate, they will have to make a cut of 50 per cent. in wages, which would not be borne.

"Other considerations, also, enter into the problem. The Southern mills are in the fields. They pay far smaller sums for the transportation of raw materials. Coal is much cheaper. The home and foreign markets are scarcely less accessible to the South than to New England. The South is naturally underselling New England, and Northern millers are moving southward. In time the South will have almost exclusive control of the cotton industry.

"New England's loss of this branch of production will inevitably be followed by similar losses in other lines. New England has no natural advantages for manufacturing except water. Coal has to be hauled from great distances. Food must be transported from other sections. The rigorous climate and thick settlement of the country make the cost of living high. Already far from the fields of raw material, New England is steadily getting further from the center of consumption, which is moving South and West.

"New England's career as a great manufacturing region is gradually coming to an end. Other and more favored sections are taking New England's industries from her. How far the process will go no one can say, but as yet no end is in sight. New England is certain in the next century to suffer a great decline in comparative importance."—*The Times* (*Dem.*), *Kansas City*.

Vindication of Free-Trade Theory?—"A free-trade newspaper, commenting on the recent reduction of wages among the cotton-mill operatives at Fall River, Mass., contends that it furnishes a vindication of the free-trade theory, because the conditions necessitating the reduction of wages have resulted in spite of tariff protection for the cotton-spinning industry.

"This free-trade paper admits that the price of print goods has fallen steadily under protection until it has reached a point where the business can not be continued at a profit without a reduction of wages. That seems to be true, and it proves what protectionists have always asserted—that under protection home competition will result in lowering the price of products to consumers, thus relieving them from the burden of tariff taxation.

"If, however, the free-trade paper were honest, it would say that the conditions at Fall River had been brought about by the unequal competition of cheap labor in the cotton-mills in the South with that in the cotton-mills in the Massachusetts town. Protected from foreign competition, the Fall River manufacturers were enabled to produce goods at a low and constantly decreasing price, and to still pay their employees living wages. For years there was prosperity and contentment at Fall River. It is doubtful if there was a more prosperous industrial community in the United States; but when the cheap and ignorant labor of the South was brought into direct competition with that of New England under different conditions it soon became apparent that such competition would prove ruinous. The only way in which protection is directly responsible for this condition of affairs is that protection afforded the opportunity for building up the cotton-spinning industry in the United States. But for protection we would have continued to buy our cotton goods from England, and, of course, there would have been no cotton-spinners at Fall River to suffer a reduction of wages. That is about the only way in which the free-trade theory has been vindicated."—*The Leader* (*Rep.*), *Cleveland*.

Southern Hints to Eastern Spinners.—"It is queer that the mill managers and the editors do not perceive that the reduction of wages will not help matters. If the trouble is Southern competition, there is but one way to meet it, and that is to transfer their plants to this section and secure the advantages to be found here, which are by no means confined to cheap wages.

"But the main trouble with the Eastern mills is that they are unable to market their goods. It is said of Fall River that her product is such that it can be produced everywhere, but this is only another way of saying that the output of the Fall River mills belongs to the class of goods most in favor with consumers. Therefore, when there is no demand for these goods, it is about time for the mill managers to inquire seriously why consumers do not enter the market. If they will ask themselves that question and proceed to consider it in the light of common sense and reason, being determined to follow the inquiry to its logical end, they will find the way illuminated.

"There is this fact to be considered—that, taking into account the shut-downs and the short hours of the past four years, the production of all the cotton-mills of the country, counting the new spindles, has not been materially larger than the production of the four years between 1889 and 1893—certainly not materially larger in proportion to the increase of population and the necessities of the people. . . . When people really need anything and fail to buy it in spite of the fact that the price is abnormally low, there can be but one reason for their failure. They either have no money to buy the goods, or they can not spare for that purpose the little they have.

"The only way that people can get money is to exchange for it the products of their labor. When prices are low the purchasing power of the people in the markets is reduced, and general business must suffer in consequence. That is why the Eastern mill men find it difficult or impossible to market their goods.

"And there must be some fundamental reason why prices are low. There should be no difficulty on the part of the Eastern mill men in finding out why the dollar will purchase twice or three times the quantity of goods that it would command even four years ago. Something has happened, and it would be to the interest of the cotton-spinners of New England to lose no time in finding out just what it is."—*The Constitution* (*Dem.*), *Atlanta*.

A Parallel in England; The Dingley Tariff.—"The condition of the Massachusetts mills finds its parallel in England. The greatest market for British cottons is India, but cotton-spinning in India has been advancing slowly during the same time and by the same means that the industry has been growing in the Carolinas. Nearness to the raw material, which the India spinner enjoys, is the smallest part of his advantage. Here, too, the wage question is the great factor. Wages of the Indian operative are only ten to twenty cents per day, and the hours of labor are such as the employer chooses to make, or are limited only by considerations of the health of the operative. It was inevitable that these advantages must at some time give the Indian market to the Indian spinner, and not only the Indian market, but those of China and other Asiatic countries, where trade is tolerably free. These conditions are pressing with severity upon the Manchester spinners, and they are at their wits' end. Some of them complain of the manufacturers of cotton-spinning machinery for supplying other countries with the latest inventions and facilities for production—as tho those men could stop work at their own pleasure or discriminate between customers. Others say that the trouble is due to the single-gold standard, and that if England would adopt bimetalism, India would begin to go backward in cotton-spinning. Few are willing to acknowledge that the markets are slipping away from them because the Indian operative works for less pay than the English.

"Is there anything to be said about the Dingley tariff in connection with this cut in wages at Fall River? Not much—the less the better, we think; for the Republican papers, we observe, have very few comments to make, and they allude to the subject as 'Fall River's New Wage Scale,' instead of 'Fall River's Wage Reduction.' According to the Dingley theory this ought to be a period of advancing wages. Dingley himself tells us that the country is prosperous and that the prosperity is due to the protective tariff that bears his impress. Whether the country is prosperous or not, is hardly worth disputing about, because it is a question that each man answers for himself. Each one, whether employer or employee, knows whether his capital or his labor brings him a fairly good return or not. It is very certain that if the men of Fall River could be polled they would deny Dingley's thesis stoutly. And yet we can not say that Dingley has done anything to cause this cut in wages, but merely that he has done nothing to prevent it. He and his kind are to blame for imagining that they could do anything to prevent it, and they will get punished at the polls in due time for holding out the hope and expectation that they would prevent it. One lesson tariff-wise this event does teach, and that is that protection was not needed to build up the cotton industry of the South. It came to life in spite of the competition of New England. No tariff ever helped it to the extent of one farthing. Nor would it be less prosperous if all tariffs were removed to-day. It stands on bed-rock and will outlast all the protective tariffs imaginable."—*The Evening Post* (*Ind.*), *New York*.

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THE CIVIL-SERVICE LAW UNDER FIRE.

CONGRESSIONAL debate prior to the holiday recess concerned itself largely with civil-service reform. Representative Grosvenor (Rep.), of Ohio, started the discussion by taking exception to the President's statement, in his message, that the civil-service system has the approval of the people. Mr. Grosvenor asserted that 95 per cent. of the people west of the Alleghany Mountains are opposed to the law and the regulations as now administered. He declared that those who agreed with him will never submit to the building up in this country of a privileged official class. He said:

"If the friends of this system, that has been fraudulently denominated the 'merit' system, will accept a limitation of this law to the clerical departments of this Government here in the city of Washington and will limit its operation, in addition thereto, to the postal service of the country, then those of us who believe that wrong has been done will be content; but we shall attach to that proposition certain conditions that will relieve the statute of from its un-American character. The examinations, which are to test the fitness of a man, shall be in the department where he is appointed, and he shall not be removed except for cause, and shall have a limitation of the tenure of his office; for we will not submit that there shall be a permanent system of life tenure of official position."

The Democratic members of the House applauded Mr. Grosvenor's statements, as an indorsement of their Chicago platform on the subject, but there were numerous Republican defenders of the law, notably Representative Johnson, of Indiana, who predicted that any impairment of the system would be promptly vetoed by the President.

About sixty Republican Representatives attended a meeting called to consider the subject, at which Mr. Grosvenor and others were appointed a special committee to examine all bills coming before the civil-service committee. An attempt is being made to secure some common action by the Democrats and anti-civil-service-law Republicans. Washington correspondents report that great pressure has been brought to bear upon the President by Senator Hanna and other Senators and Representatives to secure some modification of the regulations in the interest of Republican constituents. The House postponed consideration of the appropriation for the work of the civil-service commission until all other paragraphs of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Appropriation bill were passed.

Discussing the probability of legislation on the subject the Washington *Star* says:

"An attack upon the law which aimed at its utter destruction would certainly fail, but there are very strong indications that modifying and restrictive legislation will be adopted in both Houses of Congress. . . . . .

"The measure reported will probably, in addition to fixing narrow limits within which the classification shall extend, propose some tenure of office for clerks within the classified service, and will aim to curtail the powers and check the growth of the civil-service commission. The general understanding is that the Democrats will assist the Republicans who are kicking at the law, provided the proposed modifications do not go too far.

"Ordinarily the fact that most of the officials protected by the extension of the law beyond the clerical force are appointees under a Democratic Administration would incline that party to resist any change; but as it is the Democrats take no interest in Mr. Cleveland's appointees and are willing that they should be sacrificed in order that a certain class of higher offices shall be opened to politicians of the party in power. If this attitude is as extensively assumed by Democrats as it is thought to be, it means that there will be a majority in the House for modification of the law.

"It is known that the Senate civil-service committee is in favor of some modification of the law, which will lop off some of the Cleveland extensions and which will confine the classification to the clerical force. Thus the more conservative opposition in the House to the law concurs with the Senate committee and what is understood to be the attitude of the House committee, and it is regarded as almost certain that the Senate will furnish a majority in favor of such a modification. It, therefore, appears very probable that an act will be sent to the President for his approval or disapproval. . . . A measure to secure his approval would have to appear as a modification for the improvement of the system."

The National Civil-Service Reform League which met at Cincinnati last week adopted resolutions denouncing any attempt on the part of Republican members of Congress to repeal or modify the present civil-service law, or embarrass its administration. They praise the order of President McKinley forbidding removals in the classified service unless for good cause and after due notice to the person accused as a wise and just measure; demand that the employees of the Census Bureau be selected for merit and fitness by competitive examinations, and say: "It were better to have no census at all in 1900 than one taken by incompetent or untrustworthy political *protégés*." The league renews its declarations in favor of the repeal of the law prescribing four-year terms for many federal offices, and the extension of the merit system to the consular service; and disclaims any advocacy of civil-service pensions.

Secretary Long's Experience.—"Those who entertain honest doubt with regard to the results of the merit system, who are impressed with the demagogic catch-phrases about 'a class of office-holders' and an 'organized bureaucracy,' will do well to ponder the wholly unbiased evidence of Secretary Long as to working of the law in his own department. The test is not only a fair one, but as complete as could be desired.

"The Secretary states states that his department is now entirely within the rules of the classified service, both in the clerical and labor lines. Only about a dozen places are exempt, and the Secretary points to them as object-lessons showing the pernicious features of the old, haphazard spoils system. Mr. Long took office with only a vague sympathy with the civil-service-reform movement, but his personal experience has confirmed his opinions and made him a stanch supporter of the merit principle.

"In the first place, Secretary Long finds that the Government secures better service. The examinations are far more practical than the caricatures of the spoilsmen would have the guileless believe, and they result in furnishing employees who know that not pull or politics will insure their retention, but efficiency and faithfulness. The power of removal for cause hangs over their heads all the time and keeps them up to the mark, thus preventing the evils of an absolutely permanent tenure.

"In the second place, applicants are placed on a dignified American footing. Instead of the merit system being undemocratic, it is the old spoils method that was flagrantly undemocratic and un-American. The doctrine of a free field and no favors, of a fair chance for all, with victory to merit, is certainly and distinctly an American doctrine, while nothing could be more humiliating to manliness and self-respect than dependence on the caprice of petty tyrants and constant fear of dismissal for purely partizan reasons.

"Finally, Secretary Long believes that even Congressmen covetous of patronage and power will hail the merit system as a relief when it becomes settled. Our own experience with the mayor of Chicago and his subordinates affords striking and unexpected demonstration of the correctness of this prediction. The present tempest in the teapot will not weaken civil service. Let the Grosvenors rage and be confounded by the calm, practical arguments of men like Secretary Long."—*The Evening Post (Ind.), Chicago.*

Opposition to Abuses.—"The people, we believe, recognize the justice of the principle at the bottom of civil-service reform which is to secure to the Government efficient service. The fixity of the tenure of office is a subsidiary matter. Government place is not to insure occupants from the hazard of open competition or the difficulties of life encountered by the millions of employees outside. When it gets to this point, it were conceivably better to wipe out the whole law. We are in favor of the real principle of civil-service reform; we are opposed to its abuses.

"We think President McKinley in his message sounded the keynote of treatment. He is speaking of hearings prior to removal for alleged cause and says:

" 'This order has been made to give to the accused his right to be heard, but without in any way impairing the power of removal, which should always be exercised in cases of inefficiency and incompetency, and which is one of the vital safeguards of the civil-service-reform system, preventing

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stagnation and deadwood, and keeping every employee keenly alive to the fact that the security of his tenure depends not on favor, but on his own tested and carefully watched record of service.'

"And he significantly adds:

"'I shall not hesitate to exempt cases which I think have been improperly included in the classified service or include those which in my judgment will best promote the public service.'

"There is a hint in all this of abuses that have crept in. 'Stagnation and deadwood' have entered because places have been held too much aloof from the rules of outside competitive labor. In most ordinary occupations of life there is no fixed tenure of employment. If a man is not sufficiently productive he must give way to his superior. If the market calls for his working ten hours he must labor that length of time or retire from an overcrowded field. Likewise, when fading strength comes he must subsist on hoarded wealth or the charity of relatives and friends, or upon public charity. Now, from all these fates—which God forbid to any man—the incompetent government clerk is excused by an abuse of civil-service-reform laws. These are intended to give the Government the best and most efficient labor, they sometimes, as administered, give it the worst."—*The Post* (*Rep.*), *Hartford, Conn.*

No Revolutionary Bills.—"It is significant that whenever the system is attacked by Mr. Grosvenor and Senator Gallinger it finds strong defenders of the same party. Under the auspices of the Anti-Civil Service League a canvass has been made for signers to a petition against the system, and only sixty-five signatures have been received, and at the outside not more than eighty of both parties are expected. So far no bill to revolutionize the service has been introduced either in the Senate or in the House. Senator Gallinger, who has been outspoken against the law, has brought forward a bill in the Senate, not to repeal the law, but to restrict its application to clerical places in the executive departments, in the customs and postal services, and to the letter-carriers and postal clerks of the Post-office Department. This is not a radical bill. The great purpose of the civil-service law is to control the clerical positions, and these constitute the great bulk of those which are in the gift of the Government. If the law were restricted to these it would serve the chief purpose for which it was adopted. We trust, however, that Senator Gallinger's bill will not be passed. It would be a backward step, and we do not want to see any backward step taken."—*The Independent* (*Undenom.*), *New York.*

Elements of the Fight.—"The three men who are at the front of this assault on the merit system are not men greatly to be feared of themselves. The question is, How many will follow them in an effort to starve the civil-service commission out of existence? Votes alone can show this, but the conditions of the two parties are not in their favor. The bulk of the Republicans can not go with them without putting themselves squarely in opposition to the national Administration. President McKinley is a civil-service reformer. The order issued by him a few months ago extending the classified service and restricting the power of removal has greatly angered the Gallinger-Grosvenor-Cullom combine. If the Republicans should throw themselves into direct opposition to civil-service reform now, they could not avoid the responsibility for an attack, not only on the principles itself but on the President. They would weaken themselves before the country by so doing, and would fall from the position of a united party to a group of warring camps.

"The Democrats would have nothing to gain now by voting down the merit system, for in the event of it being swept away, no appointments would be likely to come to them. We can scarcely think it probable that the Republicans generally will proceed to fight their own President, and run the risk of losing all the independent support they received in the last campaign to placate three men who are not among their acknowledged leaders."—*The Transcript* (*Ind. Rep.*), *Boston.*

Civil Pension List.—"Already the matter of a civil pension list has been talked of. And it will come, so surely as the present system is maintained. One might suppose that clerks in the departments, for instance, might save of their salaries enough to maintain them in comfort in old age, but experience proves that very few do this. On the contrary, they anticipate their salaries by running in debt. Secretary Gage not long ago was compelled to issue an order threatening with summary dismissal the clerks in his department who do not pay their debts.

"The sentiment in the country against the merit system is largely because of the life-tenure feature. All intelligent men demand a proper degree of education and intelligence, and a general fitness for the duties of the place, including industry, faithfulness, and probity, in the government service, just the same as they do in selecting clerks in a private business. But they do not want a civil pension list. It requires now almost half the total revenue of the Government to pay soldiers' pensions, and no wise citizen can look with equanimity on a system which will build up another class of pensioners, which will be perpetual."—*The Blade* (*Rep.*), *Toledo, Ohio.*

Back to Jackson?—"There seems to be no reason to doubt that the civil-service restrictions are growing constantly more unpopular with that large and increasing class of citizens who believe that the true function of all government is to distribute personal benefits to the people, and since the national, state, and municipal governments of the country do not furnish a salaried office to every individual, that defect must be obviated as far as possible by universal rotation in the filling of the offices that actually exist. This is in line with the Socialist sentiment that is spreading through the country, and unless there should be an unexpected change, the ancient Jacksonian cry of 'To the victors belong the spoils' will be loudly heard in the land. . . . The duty of government in this country is not so much to attend to the public business as it is to furnish salaried places and to hand out benefits to the people individually."—*The Picayune* (*Dem.*), *New Orleans.*

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

HAPPILY, there is no chance of pensions for Congressmen. Unhappily, there is no chance of a civil-service examination for them either.—*The Ledger, Philadelphia.*

A DEFINITION.

JOHNNY: "Papa, what is a pessimist?"

PAPA: "Oh! he's a man who is afraid Bryan will be the next President."
—*Puck, New York.*

"HAVE you completed your plan for hastening the business of the United States Senate?"

"Partly," replied the newly elected Senator. "I have prepared a speech on the subject which it will take me three days to deliver!"—*The Star, Washington.*

AS to Government in the banking business there appears to be a division in the cablnet. Secretary Gage would get the Government out of this business in respect to note issues, while Postmaster-General Gary would plunge it deeply into this business in respect to receiving and investing deposits of the people's savings. If both should carry their points the Government would still be quite as deeply in the banking business as ever.—*The Republican, Springfield.*

UNCLE SAM: "If I have another war I'll be broke."
—*The Herald, New York.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

MURILLO'S PICTURES OF THE INFANT CHRIST.

"EL pintor de los niños" (the painter of children) is the title that has been bestowed upon Bartolomé Esteban Murillo. His love for the painting of children was developed before he was eleven years old. Becoming an orphan, he went to live with his artist uncle in Seville, and there he would often run to the Market Place to sketch the beggar children, who were, to his eye, far more picturesque in their rags and sunbrowned complexion than the children of the palaces. Become ambitious of a wider field, he started on foot for Rome, but stopped on the way at Madrid, and was persuaded by Velasquez to stay there for three years. "His style," says Janet Sanderson in *The Art Interchange* (December), "continually improved; he had three manners of painting. In the first, the outline is decided and the tone vigorous, the second shows a softer outline and a more mellow coloring, while the third exhibits softness and vigor with the finest coloring." We quote further from the same writer what she says about his famous paintings of the infant Christ:

"He left many pictures of beggar boys, beautiful in their poverty and half-nakedness, while his pictures of the Infant Christ are adorable. Most beautiful in conception and treatment is 'The Christ Child Appearing to St. Anthony,' and 'An Adoration of the Shepherds' presents a charming infant amidst a group of rude Spanish peasants. Murillo has painted a scene in the life of St. Augustine which is often illustrated in art—that of a vision

THE DIVINE SHEPHERD.

From the painting by Murillo in Madrid.

which the saint tells that he saw while writing his discourse on the Trinity. Walking upon the seashore, lost in meditation upon the great theme of his writing, he saw a little child bringing water in a shell and trying to fill a hole which he had dug in the sand. Augustine asked him the motive of his labors. The child replied he was 'going to empty all the water of the sea into the hole.' 'Impossible!' exclaimed the saint. 'Not more impossible,' answered the child, 'than for thee, O Augustine, to explain the mystery on which thou art now meditating.'

"This beautiful child on the seashore is one of the fascinating types of the painter.

"The royal picture gallery of Madrid, called The Prado, contains many of Murillo's finest children. Here are 'The Children of the Shell,' where the little Jesus holds a shell for St. John to drink from, the 'Little St. John with a Lamb,' and 'The Christ Child Sleeping upon the Cross'; but the gem of the collection is

BARTOLOME ESTEBAN MURILLO.

the Christ Child with the Lamb, called 'Christ, the Good Shepherd.' The face has that expression of earnestness which is often so remarkable in little children. The child is about seven years of age, and wears a red tunic. His feet and left leg are bare. He holds a crook in his right hand while the left rests on the back of a lamb. In the background is a broken column illustrating the downfall of paganism accomplished by the coming of the wonderful child. It was painted in the transition from Murillo's second or warm style to his third or misty style, and has the best elements of both. It is supposed that the artist was indebted for this design to an old engraving of Cupid by Della Bella, which is to be found in an edition of the 'Metamorphoses' of Ovid.

"Many pictures show the youthful Jesus and John with lambs by their sides, commemorating a custom still prevalent at Seville of each family buying a lamb for its Easter feast. Still in those old streets travelers meet the types of Murillo—dark-eyed, sunbrowned children playing in the sunshine with their Paschal lambs.

"Another charming Christ child which wins all hearts is the one of the Holy Family in the National Gallery in London. The little one, simply clad, stands on a pedestal in the center of the painting, giving one hand to the Virgin, who is seated on the right, the other to Joseph, who kneels on his left, holding lilies. Above the family group are seen the Father and the Dove with three cherubs on each side."

Possibilities of the German Language.—The almost infinite possibilities of the German tongue in the expression of a long and complex idea by means of a single compound word are well illustrated by the following tale. It is evidently constructed for the express purpose of working in the compound word, but the fact that it originated in a German paper is noteworthy as showing that familiarity with this characteristic does

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not necessarily blind the users of the language to the humor of its construction. The story is quoted from an abstract in *The Pharmaceutical Era*, which says:

"A Dresden paper, the *Weidmann*, which thinks that there are kangaroos (Beutelratte) in South Africa, says the Hottentots (Hottentoten) put them in cages (Kotter) provided with covers (Lattengitter) to protect them from the rain. The cages are therefore called Lattengitterwetterkotter, and the imprisoned kangaroo Lattengitterwetterkotterbeutelratte. One day an assassin (Attentäter) was arrested who had killed a Hottentot woman, Hottentotenmutter, the mother of two stupid and stuttering children in Strättertrottel. This woman, in the German language, is entitled Hottentotenstrottertrottelmutter, and her assassin taker the name Hottentotenstrottermutterattentäter. The murderer was confined in a kangaroo's cage—Beutelrattenlattengitterwetterkotter—whence a few days later he escaped, but, fortunately, he was recaptured by a Hottentot, who presented himself at the mayor's office with beaming face.

"'I have captured the Beutelratte,' said he.

"'Which one?' said the mayor; 'we have several.'

"'The Attentäterlattengitterwetterkotterbeutelratte.'

"'Which Attentäter are you talking about?'

"'About the Hottentotenstrottertrottelmutterattentäter.'

"'Then why don't you say at once the Hottentotenstrottelmutterattentäterlattengitterwetterkotterbeutelratte?'"

AN AMERICAN LYRIC POET.

THE complete works of Thomas Bailey Aldrich have recently appeared in an eight-volume edition. Two of the volumes are poetry, six are prose; but it is in the two, not in the six, that his claims upon the future are to be found, in the opinion of Hamilton W. Mabie.

Mr. Mabie reviews Mr. Aldrich's poetical work in *The Chap-Book* (December 1), and the review itself is an admirable specimen of the delicate workmanship and fine discrimination for which he bestows abundant praise upon the poet.

Mr. Aldrich has been a sort of connecting link between our first famous coterie of literary artists, Bryant, Emerson, Lowell, Longfellow, Whittier, Holmes, and Poe, and the group that succeeded them, consisting of Mr. Aldrich himself, Stedman, Stoddard, Bayard Taylor, and William Winter. He was fortunate in his early association with the younger group, and his editorship of *Every Saturday* and *Atlantic Monthly* brought him into close companionship with five of the seven in the older group. Born in Portsmouth, he is a true child of New England, but not of Puritanic New England. On this point Mr. Mabie writes as follows:

"Predestined so surely as was Dr. Holmes to live in Boston, and to take keen satisfaction in the fact, Mr. Aldrich is not, like the author of the 'Autocrat,' a product of New England in the forms of his thought; one must look deeper for the New England element in him. He has wholly escaped the didacticism which sometimes blurred the art of his predecessors; he was born after the time which Lowell recalled when he said that all New England was a pulpit. He is not lacking in ethical convictions, nor has he hesitated to express them; but he has been a poet, not a reformer. He has never questioned the wisdom of Providence in sending singers to refresh and cheer men as well as preachers to arouse and stir them; and he has wisely chosen to sing. It is in his lucidity, his keenness, his love of things good and pure, his deep-going refinement, his exacting conscientiousness, and in a certain clarity of vision and reticence, that one finds the evidences of his rootage in New England. He gains the ends of rich expression without a touch of sensuousness; he is gay without being frivolous, and free without a suggestion of license. The atmosphere of his mind has the cool, clear breath of the New England climate; the outlines of the world which lies in his imagination are soft without being hazy, and full of a beauty which has delicacy of fragrance and color, rather than tropical warmth and richness."

Mr. Mabie speaks further of a "certain reserve" and "firm reticence" in Mr. Aldrich's verse (as for instance in "Baby Bell"), which he thinks give it carrying power. The dainty workmanship of his verse is accompanied with an essential vigor that one is apt at first to overlook. We quote Mr. Mabie further:

"Such fragments of imagination as 'Identity,' 'Destiny,' 'An Untimely Thought,' haunt one with a sense of perfection, and carry in them the promise of haunting the memories of other generations. Indeed, this impression of longevity grows upon one as he reads Mr. Aldrich's verse with care; it is so portable; it can be carried so easily; so much of it has the aërial quality of those seventeenth-century songs which beguile and delight us as if they had floated into the world with last spring's flowers and foliage. There is good reason to believe that when much of the strenuous, didactic, emotional verse of the last thirty years has been forgotten Mr. Aldrich will still be having his day.

"The artists have a way of imposing upon their own times by the very harmony which evidences their power. They escape observation as do perfect dress or manners, by freedom from excess, extravagance, or idiosyncracy. Mr. Aldrich has lived

THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH.
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through the storm and stress of the last two decades of literary history without any apparent deflection from his orbit. He has been familiar with what the younger poets have been doing in France, in England, and in this country; but the lark in the field remotest from the highway could not be more free from any suggestion of agitation of spirit or uncertainty of artistic aim. It is possible that this aloofness is due in part to lack of quick sympathies with contemporary experience; it is more probable that it is due to a very clear perception of artistic aims and a very keen appraisal of artistic resources. Mr. Aldrich appears to know exactly what he wishes to do. His instinct as an artist has had the most careful training; his intelligence as an artist is shown alike in the apparent ease of hand in some of his lines and the evident nicety of touch in others. He has secured detachment of mood without loss of freshness and reality, and he has, consequently, written for the eye and ear of the future. He has cared more for perfection than for praise; and he has been content to speak a little less fervently to his own generation in order that he may speak more distinctly to other generations. So the finely trained

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orator often husbands his voice in order that its tones may fall, resonant and musical, in the ear of the farthest circle. The sonnet on 'Sleep,' for instance, has the quality of gathering feeling and disclosing thought in the exact degree in which one becomes familiar with it; the spell of the exquisite 'Nocturne' steadily deepens as one yields to its delicate but ardent imagery; and where shall one turn for finer and freer description of the quality which goes home to the imagination than that which touches these lines with a skill quite beyond calculated craftsmanship:

This is her Book of Verses—wren-like notes,
Shy franknesses, blind gropings, haunting fears;
At times across the chords abruptly floats
A mist of passionate tears.

"Those who confound restraint with coldness will also confuse art with skill, and will emphasize Mr. Aldrich's fastidious craftsmanship at the expense of his spontaneity and force of imagination. Against this easy and very superficial judgment the poet has protested in lines which constitute a confession of poetic faith, and which ought to be pondered in these days of easy writing and rapid printing:

"Let art be all in all," one time I said,
And straightway stirred the hypocritic gall.
I said not, "Let technic be all in all,"
But art—a wider meaning. Worthless, dead—
The shell without its pearl, the corpse of things—
Mere words are, till the spirit lends them wings.
The poet who wakes no soul within his lute
Falls short of art: 'twere better he were mute.

The workmanship wherewith the gold is wrought
Adds yet a richness to the richest gold;
Who lacks the art to shape his thought, I hold,
Were little poorer if he lacked the thought.
The statue's slumber were unbroken still
In the dull marble, had the hand no skill.
Disparage not the magic touch that gives
The formless thought the grace whereby it lives.

"Tennyson was not more exacting in the matter of workmanship than Mr. Aldrich has been; and the fastidiousness of both poets has its root in love of perfection, which is only another name for the artist's conviction that his work is done only when his thought takes such possession of a form that the two live henceforth immortal as one. Devotion to craftsmanship which springs from this vital conception of the nature of art may be wisely left to work its will in our literature; the perils of contemporary writing come from a very different quarter."

CHAUCER'S UNACKNOWLEDGED DEBT TO BOCCACCIO.

PROF. CINI CHIARIME, of Italy, is writing a series of articles on Chaucer, and the first of the series appears in *Nuova Antologia* (Rome, November 1). He takes up first the prologue to "The Canterbury Tales," which he describes as "one of the most valuable of old English poems," "a model of its kind not easy to imitate," and remarks in passing: "How lifeless and pale seem those six persons so academically brought together as narrators in the 'Tales of a Wayside Inn,' in which the gentle poet of 'Evangeline' wished to imitate the travelers to Canterbury!" Professor Chiarime then pays attention to the tale which is recounted by the knight to his fellow pilgrims. We quote what he has to say on the source of this tale:

"The general design and the principal materials of this tale are taken, in such a manner as to forbid discussion, from the 'Teseide' of Boccaccio; from which Chaucer has translated almost literally some two hundred and seventy verses, and has, in addition, imitated or paraphrased five hundred. That he has drawn so frequently and so largely from the poetical works of Boccaccio, and has failed anywhere to record the latter's name, is a mystery which, up to this time, on one has ever been able to solve. While he acknowledges his debt to Dante and Petrarch, to whom he owes very little in comparison with his obligations to Boccaccio, and is almost solicitous to name other Latin and mediæval writers whom he might have left to oblivion without any scruples, he entirely forgets the author of the 'Decameron.' . . . The authors whom he cited when he should have named Boccaccio, who was the true source, are Lollius, Stazio, and Petrarch. Sandras, not succeeding in solving this strange puzzle in any other way, suspects that Chaucer intended to make sport of his readers by puzzling them with unwarranted and invented citations. This assumption is not overly pleasing to Lounsbury, who says it is improbable and without any foundation. . . . . .

"It is doubtful whether the poet of 'The Canterbury Tales' acted in good faith. He was not ignorant that among the 'other old books' which he mentions through the knight to his readers was the 'Teseide.' Since he was always ready to own his obligations to Dante, Petrarch, and other writers, one must conclude, bearing in mind how much Chaucer owed to Boccaccio, that in this case the poet of 'The Canterbury Tales' was like certain scrupulous debtors who pay their small debts and entirely forget the greater ones. . . . . .

"With all this it is certainly impossible to deny that he has been able to infuse into the fable of 'Palemon and Arcite' a something of his own characteristics and those happy and opportune modifications as already noted by Tyrwhitt, Skeat, and Hertzberg. Chaucer was too much a poet to make a simple summary in verse of the original from which he drew his material.

"What poetry in this brief description of the dawn:

The busy larke, messager of daye,
Salueth in hire song the morwe gray;
And fyry Phebus ryseth up so bright,
That all the orient laugheth of the light,
And with his stremes dryeth in the greves
The silver dropes, hongyng on the leeves.

"To find anything thus delicately painted and so poetically reproduced from nature, one must read Shakespeare or Dante. Longfellow must certainly have thought of these verses when in that most beautiful sonnet he wrote of Chaucer:

He listeneth to the lark
Whose song comes with the sunshine through the dark
Of painted glass in leaden lattice bound;
He listeneth and he laugheth at the sound,
Then writeth in a book . . . . .

—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE RETURN OF THE SINGER.

A SCORE of years it is since Edmund Clarence Stedman gave us his latest collection of poems. Altho the public has welcomed since, from time to time, the scholar, the essayist, the critic, in the "Victorian Poets," the "Nature and Elements of Poetry," and the "Victorian Anthology," we have caught the lilt of the minstrel's pipe only at long intervals in the magazines, here and there. Saving such occasional traits and signals, his muse has had a long vacation, and it is high time she should answer to her singer's call—when, as now, in his new volume, "Poems: Now First Collected," the dominant note is tuned to the national measure, to national tradition and art:

What need to borrow? Lustier clime
Than ours earth has not,—nor her scroll a time
Ampler of human glory and desire
To touch the plume, the brush, the lips, with fire;
No sunrise chant on ancient shore and sea,
Since sang the morning stars, more worth shall be
Than ours, once uttered from the very heart
Of that glad race that here shall act its part.

Here is no mawkish sentiment on the one hand, nor dyspeptic cynicism on the other; all is happy, hearty, often robust and virile. In "The Hand of Lincoln" it is the tone of triumph that gives the noble verse distinction; in the pathetic portraiture of "Cousin Lucrece" and the "Old Picture-Dealer" it is the grace of tenderness that glorifies the humor; in the happy lyrics of love and courtship it is the boyish heart of the poet that imparts the winsome charm of the numbers:

'Tis the pretty page with the dimpled chin,
Sighing and singing of midnight strains,
Under Bonnybell's window panes.

In the present volume, "The Hand of Lincoln" holds the place of honor:

The man who sped the woodman's team,
And deepest sunk the plowman's share,
And pushed the laden raft astream,
Of fate before him unaware.

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This was the hand that knew to swing
The ax—since thus would Freedom train
Her son—and made the forest ring,
And drove the wedge, and toiled amain.

Firm hand, that loftier office took,
A conscious leader's will obeyed,
And, when men sought his word and look,
With stedfast might the gathering swayed.

No courtiers, toying with a sword,
Nor minstrel's laid across a lute;
A chief's, uplifted to the Lord
When all the kings of earth were mute!

The hand of Anak, sinewed strong,
The fingers that on greatness clutch;
Yet, lo! the marks their lines along
Of one who strove and suffered much.

For here in knotted cord and vein
I trace the varying chart of years;
I know the troubled heart, the strain,
The weight of Atlas—and the tears.

The remarks of Mr. Richard Henry Stoddard in this connection (New York *Mail and Express*) are as follows:

"Whittier, between whose New England cast of thought and expression there was something in common with Mr. Stedman's, excelled, in his younger years, in portraits of this national school, in 'Randolph of Roanoke' and in 'Ichabod'; but that earnest and noble poet was fitted neither by his temperament nor his habitual practise in verse for the writing of such a poem as Mr. Stedman has given his countrymen in 'The Hand of Lincoln.' How great

EDMUND CLARENCE STEDMAN.

it is is apparent when one compares it with a score of other poems of which that unique historic character has been made the hero, or in which his life, his work, and his death have been celebrated."

How cheerily the scholar and bookman chants in "Ye Tombe of Ye Poet Chaucer":

In climes beyond his calendar
The latest century's splendors grow;
London is great,—the Abbey's state
A young world's eager wanderers know;
New songs, new minstrels, come and go;
Naught as of old outside his cell,
Just as of old, within it low,
He slumbers well.

And to the rollicking vitality, the swing of some jocund old sexton singing as he digs, one finds himself rocking as he trolls the "Song of Falstaff":

Where's he that died o' Sabba' day?
Good Lord, I'd not be he!
The best of days is foul enough
From this world's fare to flee;
And the saint that died o' Sabba' day,
With his grave turf yet to grow,
Is dead as the sinner brought to pray
A hundred years ago.

Where's he that died o' yesterday?
What better chance hath he
To click the can and toss the pot
When this night's junkets be?
For the lad that died o' yesterday
Is just as dead—ho! ho!
As the whoreson knave men laid away
A thousand years ago.

The Chap-Book finds proof in this volume "of the common error that exercise of the critical faculty throws creative ability into abeyance," and Hamilton W. Mabie finds proof that immersion in practical affairs need not quench the fire of true poetic genius. Writing in the New York *Times*, Mr. Mabie says:

"In these years the poet has gone through many of the deeper experiences of life with a rare and beautiful courage; he has been immersed in practical affairs; and yet he has succeeded, by virtue of astonishing persistence and industry, in giving his art a study more thorough and fruitful in certain ways than that of any of his contemporaries. . . . . .

"In lyric as in essay Mr. Stedman is alert, incisive, compact, often brilliant. His imagination shows a tendency to escape from meditation and sentiment into action. It is an active rather than a passive imagination; an imagination that does not wait to receive impressions, but goes abroad to make them. The Puritan strain in his blood shows itself, not in a passion for reform or a dominant interest in causes, but in the utmost distinctness of personality, in clear and vivid individuality, and in deep sympathies with aspiration and force when both have passed into action and become character. Whatever is generous, courageous, virile stirs Mr. Stedman's imagination. . . . The currents which have flowed so swiftly in recent years and which some men have mistaken for tidal movements have not swept Mr. Stedman from his moorings. He has rendered our students of literature a lasting service by the sanity and balance of his critical judgments; and in his own verse he has shown how freedom may be used without lawlessness, and the balance struck without concessions to conventionality. A man of culture, he has steadily refused to take up the swan-song of pessimism; a poet of strong and virile instincts, he has shown how a man may have the freest activity and the most catholic sympathies with all forms of life and types of character without confusing corruption with liberation or abandon with vice."

A NEW DANIEL COME TO JUDGMENT.

TO refer to Mr. H. D. Traill as "new" in the realm of literary criticism would, of course, be absurd; but the fact that he has been selected as editor of the new periodical, *Literature*, which is published in this country as well as in England, invests him with an air of authority not before possessed.

A fair idea of his general attitude can be gained from the recently published volume of his critical essays and reviews. Under the title, "The New Fiction and Other Essays on Literary Subjects," are included a number of articles which originally appeared in various reviews and magazines, and which have since been revised and partially rewritten. Dealing with such varied subjects as "The Politics of Literature," "Matthew Arnold," "The Novel of Manners," and "The Future of Humor," these essays are an expression of their author's views on many of the literary controversies of the time, and these views are stated with a force and clearness that leave no question as to their being very positive convictions.

Thus in the opening essay, on "The New Fiction," Mr. Traill vehemently attacks the work of Stephen Crane and Arthur Morrison, which he classifies under the name of the New Realism, but declares that it is "unreal with the falsity of the half truth,

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and as old as the habit of exaggeration." Of Mr. Crane's book "Maggie," he says: "Is it art? If so, is the making of mud-pies an artistic occupation, and are the neglected brats who are to be found rolling in the gutters of every great city unconscious artists"? After a summary of the descriptions of some of the street and barroom fights which are so numerous in the story of "Maggie," the critic adds: "The extracts which have been already given are perfectly fair samples of Mr. Crane's work. I can honestly affirm that any one who is willing to accept my assurance that to read these two books ['Maggie' and 'George's Mother'] through would be to wade through some three hundred and thirty pages of substantially the same stuff as the above extracts, will do Mr. Crane no injustice."

Mr. Traill's comments on Mr. Morrison contain an element of unintentional humor in the shape of a list of school-board managers, poor-law guardians, and visiting missionaries, who have protested against the unreal realism with which "The Child of the Jago" describes a typical London slum!

In a study of "The Political Novel," of which Disraeli gave three brilliant examples in "Coningsby," "Sybil," and "Tancred," Mr. Traill reviews at length Mrs. Humphry Ward's "Sir George Tressady." This book he describes as the most serious attempt at a political novel which has been adventured since Disraeli's time, but considers it a comparative failure, mainly because of its author's lack of humor. He finds an interesting contrast in the light-minded politics of Disraeli's time and its rare and slightly contemptuous references to the people, and the solemn chatter, with an eye on the caucus, found in Mrs. Ward's story. This solemnity, however, is not overdone, says Mr. Traill:

"But the greater art, which would have shown these well-meaning but fussy and pretentious personages (as most of them at bottom really are) in their true relation to the great eternal forces of human nature which they play at directing—this greater art is to seek in Mrs. Ward's novel. And the reason why it is absent is not to seek at all. It is due to the lack of that power of self-detachment which is never found apart from—which perhaps is—the sense of humor. Mrs. Ward can survey her minor characters from the outside. In some of their aspects or attitudes she can contemplate even the central figures of her story in the same way. But where they are giving utterance to her own long-pondered thoughts, where they are personifying her own passionately cherished ideals, where, in other words, they are speaking, feeling, or acting as she would have men speak, feel, and act, she is wholly unable to detach herself from them, and view them as the painter views his unfinished picture, or the sculptor his half-modeled clay. They are herself, and the ability to detach herself from them would imply just that power of self-detachment which her writings so abundantly show that she does not possess. And thus it is that Mrs. Ward, while comparatively failing where Disraeli so memorably succeeded, succeeds no better than Disraeli where Disraeli failed. Her presentment of the lighter side of English political life is accurate, and in its way interesting and historically valuable, but it is wholly wanting in that brilliant satiric touch which has made Disraeli's novels live as literature when their political significance has utterly passed away."

"The Politics of Literature" is a lively and amusing dialog, in which a Liberal, a Conservative, and an Opportunist discuss the natural political leanings of men of science and letters. The result of the argument is to prove that "the literary man, as such, can have no tendency either to Liberalism or Conservatism as represented by the two political parties. Neither party has anything to attract him, or, rather, each has so much to repel him that he must become an eclectic whether he will or no."

The most important essay of the volume is that on Matthew Arnold, and the estimate of the relative value of Mr. Arnold's poetry and his prose writings is particularly interesting. Replying to the view taken in much recent criticism that Arnold's future fame will depend on his poetry, Mr. Traill says:

"Even if the influence of Wordsworth should increase, instead of, as is at least as probable, diminishing, it does not follow that Mr. Arnold's would obtain additional acceptance on that account; for Wordsworth's appeal to the common mind is largely dependent upon a quality in his poetry which Mr. Arnold's is altogether without. Wordsworth lays firm hold of the religious instinct in man. His poetry, for all the mystical nature-worship that pervades it, was allied to a strongly and even almost narrowly personal theistic creed. There is nothing in the poetry of his disciple to supply the place of this element, except that highly attenuated conception of the 'Something not ourselves which makes for righteousness,' so familiar to every student of the amateur theologian into which the poet and critic unfortunately declined. It will be a long time before the mass of mankind are willing to accept the 'stream of tendency' as a substitute for their no doubt crude and self-contradictory conceptions of a personal Creator; and when, if ever, they do, they will probably have ceased to care for poetry of the Wordsworthian and Arnoldian type at all. Science relieved by sensuousness appears to be the ideal to which not only poetry, but art of all kinds, is tending at the present day, and if the movement is a real and persistent, and not a merely apparent or merely temporary one, the ultimate effect of that movement must be to crowd out all poetry set mainly in the contemplative key, to whatever tenderness of feeling and truth of esthetic vision it may be allied. For, so long as this key is maintained by a poet, he will probably never be able to compete for the favor of the average man with those rivals who proceed upon the sound assumption that the average man wants, as Goethe said, not to be made to think, but merely to be made to feel. . . . . .

"No critic, no one with any strong feeling for style, could find it in his heart to speak of Mr. Arnold's poetry as 'cold.' To such a reader it is not and never can be that; but it must be admitted, I think, that the glow which it takes in the mind of such a reader is largely, if not wholly, self-generated."

Mr. Arnold's essays and other prose writings are more favorably reviewed, tho Mr. Traill takes exception to the purpose and method of "Literature and Dogma," which is thus criticized:

"The assumption that there anywhere exists any considerable class of Christians in so curiously 'mixed' a mental condition as to be at once anxious to reconcile the dogmas of their faith with the informations of their reason, unable to do it for themselves, and willing to allow others to attempt it for them, was in itself an assumption of a highly doubtful kind; but the idea that if there were such persons they would find anything specially persuasive in Mr. Arnold's method of reasoning with them, or even in his manner of approaching them, appears to me to have been a positively monumental instance of self-deception."

And the conclusion of the essay pays this tribute to Arnold's influence:

"But much as we may regret the perversity, if that be not too harsh a word, which diverted so large a portion of Mr. Arnold's intellectual energies in later years away from the natural bent of his genius, it would be ungracious not to acknowledge the indirect benefit which arose from this very dispersion of the rays of that penetrating intelligence. He could not touch any subject without throwing some light upon it. Everything that he wrote was suggestive, if too little of it was satisfying; and tho his determination to avoid the commonplace view of every subject was undoubtedly a snare—since the commonplace, and even that he would have called the Philistine view, is more often the true view than he was at all prepared to admit—it was also, and as undoubtedly, in many instances a source of strength. A deliverance of Mr. Arnold's on any question—social, moral, or political, as well as literary—was always the most admirable touchstone of received opinions. None of us could be quite sure of our reason for the faith that is in us on any matter till it had stood the test of his refined and searching criticism. More of us have been compelled by him than by any other writer of our age and country to review and revise our judgments upon most subjects of human interest; and not only the world of literature, but the infinitely larger world of unexpressed thought and feeling and unembodied imagination, is sensibly the poorer for his loss."

THE organization of the Colored Southern Presbyterian Church has been postponed till next May.

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SCIENCE.

WHY WE KNOW SO LITTLE ABOUT VENUS.

THE planet Venus is our nearest celestial neighbor, the moon alone excepted. And yet our knowledge of Venus, as compared with that of Mars, is comparatively small. This is not because of the lack of effort to increase that knowledge, but to other causes beyond our control, which are explained by Camille Flammarion in the *Bulletin de la Société Astronomique de France* (Paris, October). M. Flammarion writes as follows:

"When Venus is nearest to us, with a telescope magnifying thirty times only, it appear as large as the moon as seen with the naked eye. An instrument which magnifies three hundred times exhibits Venus to us ten times longer in diameter than the moon, and a magnifying power of six hundred makes Venus twenty times larger than the moon. Instruments which magnify thus give great opportunities for telescopic study, and they have produced marvelous results in the case of Mars, a planet both farther from us and smaller than Venus. In the case of the latter planet, we are as yet not sure of anything.

"The reason of this is the difficulty of observations. In the first place, since Venus revolves around the sun in an orbit interior to ours, the time of its greatest proximity is when it passes between the sun and us. Its illuminated hemisphere is, naturally, always turned toward the sun. There result phases analogous to those of the moon. The nearer Venus comes to the earth the less we see of its surface. The farther it gets away from us the more we see of its surface, but the planet is reduced to its smallest apparent dimension. A second circumstance, not less deplorable for the success of our studies, is that Venus is surrounded by an immense atmosphere, twice as dense and much higher than ours. The effect of this is that we never can be sure of anything we see on Venus."

To demonstrate this, M. Flammarion gives a summary, which can not be read without amusement, of the results of observations of Venus during nearly 250 years. The first observer was Dominic Cassini at Bologna in 1666, who observed what he believed to be a brilliant spot on Venus, and this spot he continued to see until his death in 1726. By the recurring appearance of this spot Cassini calculated that Venus turned on its axis once in less than a terrestrial day and revolved in its orbit in nearly 23 days. Cassini's son, seventy-three years later, thought that he, too, saw spots on the planet. His calculation was that Venus rotated on its axis in 23 hours and from 20 to 22 minutes. Early in the seventeenth century another Italian astronomer, Bianchini, thought he discovered a new set of spots, and he lengthened the time of the rotation of Venus on its axis to 24 days, 8 hours. Then Johann Hieronymus Schröter (1745–1816) declared that he had discovered on Venus mountains six times higher than Chimborazo, and he fixed the rotation of the planet on its axis at 23 hours, 21 minutes. Sir William Herschel, in his turn, finally became convinced that no one had ever seen spots on Venus, that what was believed to be such were optical deceptions. He declared that it was impossible to discover the length of time taken by Venus in turning on its axis, and he ceased to make observations on the planet. As for the high mountains found by Schröter, Sir William laughed at them. Father de Vico and his colleague Palomba of Rome, in 1839, made more than ten thousand observations on Venus, and ended by stoutly asserting that there were spots on Venus, and they made the time of rotation 23 hours, 21 minutes, 21.9345 seconds! Schiaparelli, of our day, made up his mind in 1890 that Venus takes 224 days and 17 hours to turn on her axis. That is to say, she takes the same time to rotate on her axis as to revolve in her orbit round the sun, presenting to the sun always the same face.

While, however, Schiaparelli has been observing Venus, a host of observers in various parts of the world have also been observing her. The list of them would be long. One of the most recent is Mr. Barnard of the Lick Observatory, with its immense telescope. Last year he declared that he has never been able to distinguish any certain spot on Venus, save once on May 29, 1889. The combined result of all these observations is to demolish completely the theory of Schiaparelli. According to all probability, the globe of Venus turns, invisible to us, under its atmosphere, which turns with it; but does not offer any fixed point which will permit us to determine the time of this rotation:

"The atmosphere of Venus is so dense that its action is manifest when the planet makes a transit across the face of the sun, under the form of a black disk. By the observation of a transit at Pueblo on December 8, 1874, it was found that Venus has an atmosphere five times higher than that of the earth. To sum up, I affirm that we can know nothing about the rotation of Venus on its axis, because the absorption of light produced by its immense atmosphere certainly prevents us from distinguishing any detail on the surface of the planet. The gray spots that are perceived from time to time on Venus are effects of contrast due entirely to solar light and indistinct shadows of an atmospheric nature, incapable of furnishing any serious ground for calculation as to the rotation of the planet. No one on the earth has ever seen the surface of Venus, and no one ever will. No one has ever seen a clearly defined spot like those seen on the disks of Mars or the moon. The maps of Venus, which have been made up to this time, are pure illusions."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

HOW MUCH SLEEP DO WE NEED?

PROBABLY the answer to this question must be worked out by each one for himself; but it is quite certain that with some persons sleep is not absolutely necessary to hard and prolonged work. A number of instances illustrating this are given in a brief note in *The British Medical Journal*, a part of which we quote below:

"Sir James Sawyer, who has lately been discoursing on longevity to the members of the Acock's Green Institute, Birmingham, rightly insisted on 'a sufficiency of sleep' as one of the things needful to make a man's days long in the land. But what is a 'sufficiency'? Sir James defines it as one third of the twenty-four hours. For what Matthew Arnold called the 'average sensual man,' that is to say, the man of normal physiological needs and cravings, this amount is probably not too much. But some of the greatest workers of our day have done with much less than eight hours of sleep. Dr. James Legge, professor of Chinese in the University of Oxford, who has just died at the age of eighty-two, was, it is said, in the habit of rising at 3 A.M., and allowed himself only five hours of sleep. Brunel, the famous engineer, for a considerable part of his life worked nearly twenty hours a day; friends and assistants have left it on record that he hardly ever went to bed, and yet never seemed tired or out of spirits. After working through a great part of the night, he slept in his armchair for two or three hours, and at early dawn he was ready for the work of the day. Sir George A. Elliott, afterward Lord Heathfield, who was in command throughout the great siege of Gibraltar, which lasted four years, never during all that time slept more than four hours out of the twenty-four. He lived to the age of eighty-four. In a recent number of *Cosmopolis* Prof. Max Müller records a conversation which he had with Alexander von Humboldt on the subject of sleep. 'As I get old,' said Humboldt, 'I want more sleep—four hours at least. When I was yonug, two hours of sleep were quite enough for me.' On Prof. Max Müller hinting that he found this a hard saying, Humboldt said: 'It is quite a mistake, tho it is very widely spread, that we want seven or eight hours of sleep. When I was your age, I simply lay down on the sofa, turned down my lamp, and after two hours' sleep I was as fresh as ever.' He lived to be eighty-nine. Littré gives the following account of his labors during the printing of his dictionary, which was thirteen years in passing through the press: 'My rule of life included the twenty-four hours of the day and night, so as to allow the least possible amount of time to the current calls of existence. . . . I rose at 8—very late, you will say, for so busy a man. Wait an instant. While they put my bedroom in order, which was also my study,

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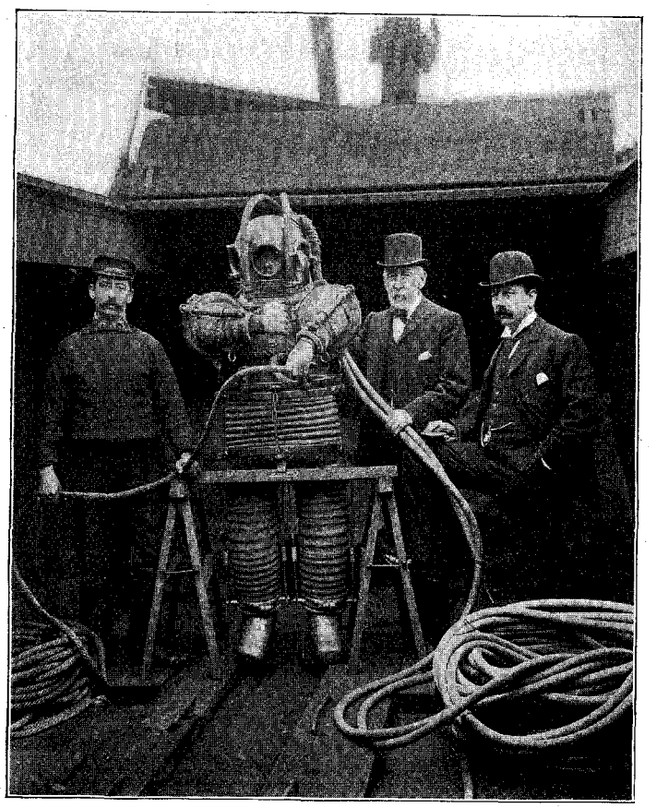
I went downstairs with some work in hand. It was thus, for example, that I composed the preface of the dictionary. I had learned from Chancellor d'Aguesseau the value of unoccupied minutes. At 9, I set to work to correct proofs, until the hour of our midday meal. At 1 I resumed wnrk and wrote my papers for the *Journal des Savants*, to which I was from 1855 a regular contributor. From 3 to 6 I worked on the dictionary. At 6 punctually we dined, which took about an hour. They say it is unwholesome to work directly after dinner, but I never found it so; it is so much time won from the exigencies of the body. Starting again at 7 in the evening, I stuck to the dictionary. My first stage took me to midnight, when my wife and daughter (who were my assistants) retired. I then worked on till 3 in the morning, by which time my daily task was usually completed. If it was not I worked on later, and more than once, in the long days of summer, I have put out my lamp and continued to work by the light of the coming dawn. However, at 3 in the morning I generally laid down my pen and put my papers in order for the following day, that day which had already begun. Habit and regularity had extinguished all excitement in my work. I fell asleep as easily as a man of leisure does, and woke at 8 as a man of leisure does.' Littre was past forty when he began this work, he was fifty-nine when he began to print the dictionary, he was seventy-two when he completed it, and he lived to be nearly eighty. These examples may, to use the consecrated phrase of the hagiographers, be more for admiration than for imitation; but they serve to show that longevity and a small allowance of sleep are not in all cases incompatible."

THE LATEST THING IN DIVER'S ARMOR.

THIS is what is known as the Buchanan-Gordon diving-dress, patented in Australia and just tried with great success on the Clyde. We quote the following description from the English correspondent of *The Scientific American* (December 11):

"The dress has been designed to meet the requirements of all descriptions of deep-sea diving up to 30 fathoms, or at even



Courtesy of *The Scientific American*.

greater depths. The invention is a dress which in itself withstands the tremendous pressure of great depths, enabling the diver to breathe a normal air pressure. It is in effect a suit of armor which defies all assaults, yet enables the wearer to move about with the utmost ease. The most important part is the helmet, which descends to the waist in one piece of solid copper, and weighs no less than 2½ cwt., while the dress weighs 5 cwt. The arms and the lower half of the dress consist of a series of spiral springs covered with water-proof material, which at the same times gives strength and mobility. These springs are made of Delta metal—a phosphor bronze of immense strength. By a series of ingenious arrangements the suit can be adjusted to the height of the diver, and there is a jointed brass support running along the outside of the legs, which is intended to prevent the horrible accidents which might be caused by the upward pressure of the water. But perhaps the most interesting portion of the Gordon dress is the escape-valve. Presuming a diver to be at a depth of 26 fathoms, he would have to stand a pressure of 69 pounds to the square inch; and, therefore, an air pressure of more than this amount would have to be pumped into the diver's dress in order that the escaping air might overcome the external resistance. But in the Gordon process this difficulty is overcome in a very simple manner. The escape-valve, which is perfectly under the diver's control, is attached to a floating hose the upper end of which can be submerged at any required depth below the surface. This reduces the head against which the air escapes and thereby permits the pressure of air supplied to the diver to be proportionately diminished.

"But perhaps the most valuable feature of the invention is the capacity of the dress for retaining air."

With this dress, we are told, a diver descended 31 fathoms, or 186 feet, and remained at that depth 50 minutes, subjected to a pressure of more than 80 pounds to the square inch; yet on coming up he was quite fresh. This depth had never before been attained in Great Britain. A novice, in his first three trials of the dress, descended respectively 10, 15, and 19½ fathoms.

A STUDY OF THE EMOTIONS.

GREAT attention is being given nowadays to the emotions, especially to their physiological symptoms, not only on grounds purely scientific, but with a view to controlling them when they are excessive or abnormal, just as we are accustomed to control or abate disease. In *Cosmos* (Paris, November 27), in one of a series of articles on "The Physiological Theory of the Emotions," Dr. L. Menard sets forth some of the most recent views on the subject, especially with relation to fear and anger. Particularly interesting is the classification which places anger in the same category with joy, its symptoms being very similar, but more violent. Says Dr. Menard:

"Joy makes us feel younger, lightens the body, puts at our disposal a large amount of superabundant energy. Archimedes ran down the streets of Syracuse shouting 'Eureka'! Davy fell to dancing in his laboratory when he discovered potassium.

"Sadness produces the opposite effects; it makes the voluntary movements more sluggish and disposes to inaction. . . . . .

"This obstruction of the voluntary movements, which is accompanied by a contraction of the small vessels, brings on, when the sadness is permanent, a premature old age, a deep-seated injury to the health. On the contrary, their habitual expansion through constant happiness brings long life.

"These organic states are, according to different theories, the condition, the cause, or the consequence of the emotions to which they correspond; they may be of permanent character.

"The conditions in which fear and anger take place, on the contrary, seem to me to have always a transitory character. These are, properly speaking, emotions in the ordinary sense in which the non-philosopher uses the word. When danger is continual, the mind accustoms itself to it up to a certain point. . . . But fear may give rise to a certain amount of sadness, and may leave it in the mind; and it brings with it also the same injury to the health. Sudden and violent fear may cause the rapid whitening of the hair, or even sudden death. . . . . .

"Death due to syncope caused by moral emotions is produced through the same mechanism as that which takes place by shock. If we strike suddenly and sharply with the finger or with any

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blunt instrument against the upper rear part of a frog's skull so as not to bruise it, we shall see the animal, after a short convulsive struggle, fall into a state of complete unconsciousness. It is a state of apparent death, the heart even ceasing to beat for several instants. Goetz has also seen syncope produced under the influence of a similar shock, and he has proved that there then exists an enormous dilatation of the abdominal vessels. This dilatation shows where the blood goes when the limbs shrink under the influence of severe emotion.

"Féré, from whom I take this explanation, . . . thinks we have here an excitation of the pneumogastric nerve which brings on dilatation of the heart. Very intense and painful emotions, he says, which 'make the heart come up into the throat,' may end in syncope and death, by a common process, an extreme tension of the muscular fibers connected with the pneumogastric nerve.

"We may compare, on the one hand, grief and fear, and, on the other, joy and anger.

"An angry man gives himself up to irregular motions; he becomes red and cries out. These three phenomena occur also in joy, but with less intensity. But there is a third characteristic that occurs in anger only, the swelling of the veins of the forehead.

"This is due to overtension of the vessels, in connection with obstruction of the pulmonary circulation, and it must not be confused with vasomotor action.

"The excessive innervation of the voluntary muscles appears, just as in joy, in violent movements, but they are more sudden and more difficult to control, and in violent emotion we can not suppress all signs of it completely. Thus an angry man may be able to hide a frown by raising his eyebrows, but the concealment is incomplete and his lips are probably compressed by reflex action. When the repression of the motions seems most complete it is probable that the nervous discharge takes place in some other form; in fact, it is a common notion that when the expression of an emotion is controlled, the internal after-effects are more intense. It would be difficult to prove the real value of facts relating to the pathologic consequences of anger that has thus 'struck in,' but we can not deny the force of universal opinion.

"Féré continues: 'The excess of muscular tension in anger provokes some secondary phenomena that are worth noting. This tension, with the rapidity of breathing, brings about the condition of the veins that shows itself without by the swelling of the veins of the face and forehead. The constriction of the jaws and the closing of the lips causes an enormous dilation of the nostrils, which thus give passage to the inspired air. When the contraction of the nostril and the upper lip predominate the air penetrates between the teeth with a hissing sound. This same muscular action, pushed to its last limit, uncovers the canine teeth, which gives to the physiognomy a threatening expression of ferocity. The angry man "shows his teeth."' . . . . .

"The impossibility of suppressing all exterior manifestation of anger gives to this emotion a special character that approximates it to insanity. A man violently angry throws things about, breaks them, expends his strength on inanimate objects; he is, at the moment of the crisis of his paroxysm, as if devoid of feeling. . . . . .

"After great anger there is often a complete loss of memory of what caused it. The paroxysmal character of this emotion and the intellectual confusion that accompanies it make it resemble the crises of an epileptic attack. Certain epileptics, for a long time, show no other signs of their disease than violent fits of anger, excessive and causeless, leaving no recollection behind them. Alcoholics are subject to the same attacks.

"As there are remedies for alcoholism and epilepsy, so there must be for anger, and this opens up a new chapter in the study of the emotions—the medical treatment of excessive or morbid emotivity—the medicine of the passions."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Composition of Ancient Mirrors.—"To Berthelot's researches," says *Science*, December 10, "we owe very much of our knowledge of the chemistry and technology of the ancients. In the last *Comptes Rendus* he recounts his examination of glass mirrors found near Reims, dating from the third and fourth centuries. The glass was coated with a metal and also a whitish layer. The metal proved to be lead, with no trace of gold, silver, copper, tin, antimony or mercury, nor was there any organic substance present, showing that no extraneous material was used to cement the lead to the glass. The mirrors appeared to have been cut from hollow blown glass globes, and it is probable that, before being cut, the molten lead had been poured into the interior, adhering to the previously warmed glass. The whitish layer consisted of lead carbonate and lead oxid formed by the oxidation of the lead coating, and calcium carbonate, which had been deposited from the water of the vicinity. A similar method of coating glass with lead was known in the thirteenth century. In the same find were fragments of glass showing the luster of gold and of silver; these metals were not present, but the color was due partly to the lamellation of the glass and partly to a very thin layer of calcium carbonate which had been deposited on them."

MODERN ALCHEMY.

IN an address on "The Revival of Alchemy," read before the New York section of the American Chemical Society by Dr. H. Carrington Bolton on October 1, an interesting account is given of recent efforts, both practical and speculative, to work along the lines pursued by the alchemists of ancient times—more especially with regard to the transmutation of metals. Ancient alchemy, Dr. Bolton tells us, died hard, and was practised even by those upon whom we look back as the giants of early science. Says Dr. Bolton as reported in *Science* (December 10):

"Before condemning those who labored day and night to solve the problems of transmutation and the elixir of life we should consider their intellectual environments. Superstitious beliefs of every kind prevailed, even the sciences were in bondage, astronomy was dominated by astrology, medicine was influenced by magic, natural history was subject to blind belief in authorities, and scientific chemistry was entirely overwhelmed by the chimeras of alchemy. Kepler and Tycho Brahe, at the court of Rudolph II., did not think it beneath their dignity to cast horoscopes for gain and to predict the future by consulting the positions of celestial bodies, even while formulating the laws governing their motions. European crowned heads retained astrologers and alchemists as members of their courts. A century later Sir Isaac Newton dabbled with furnaces and chemicals in true hermetic style; and Leibnitz showed the courage of his convictions by acting as secretary of an Alchemical Society in Germany."

The alchemists have thus survived even to modern times:

"The printing-press has never ceased to issue works devoted to the subject. . . . The number of reprints of the grotesque writings of reputed adepts which have appeared since chemistry has become an exact science is surprisingly large, and the fact that they find purchasers indicates a small but zealous class of hermetic students. So eminent a chemist as Sir Humphry Davy did not hesitate to affirm that some of the doctrines of alchemy are not unphilosophical.

"Recent discoveries in physics, chemistry, and psychology have given the disciples of Hermes renewed hopes, and the present position of chemical philosophy has given the fundamental doctrine of alchemy a substantial impetus; the favorite theory of a *prima materia*, or primary matter, the basis of all the elementary bodies, has received new support by the discoveries of allotropism of the elements, isomerism of organic compounds, the revelations of the spectroscope, the practical demonstrations by Norman Lockyer, the experiments on the specific heat of gaseous bodies at a high temperature by Mallard and Le Châtelier, the discoveries of Sir William Crookes as set forth in his monograph on 'Meta-elements,' the discovery by Carey Lea of several singular allotropic forms of silver, and, most weighty of all, the mass of related facts and phenomena which find their ultimate expression in the periodic law of the elements, so that many chemists of the present day are inclined to believe in the mutual convertibility of elements having similar chemical properties."

But beside the practical alchemist there is another kind, the speculative or theosophical, of which Dr. Bolton speaks as follows:

"This goes hand-in-hand with the interest in chiromancy, as-

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trology, theosophy, and occult sciences which occupy so large a place in modern thought, literature, and polite society on both sides of the Atlantic. This tendency to cultivate the esoteric manifests itself in the study of the Kabala, the investigation of the mysteries of Buddhism, Confucianism, and other Oriental philosophies, in researches into the phenomena of spiritualism so-called, and in the foundation of societies to study psychic force and the tenets of the followers of Mme. Blavatsky; crystal-gazing, reading in magic mirrors, slate-writing, planchette, the quasi-scientific study of apparitions, of table-turnings, of rappings by unseen powers, of telepathy, of subliminal self, are now regarded as legitimate pursuits in no wise necessarily associated with the black arts of medieval times, provided only they are conducted in a spirit of inquiry and for the purpose of discovering the latent power underlying these phenomena. . . . Crowded lecture halls reward exhibitions of trance mediums, speakers on theosophy, palmistry, and occultism; in lower walks of life fortune-tellers and clairvoyants reap a modest harvest; books treating of occult themes enjoy great notoriety; writers of fiction find it profitable to introduce the mysterious into the children of their brains; even secular journals, especially those of France, give space to the all-absorbing discussions on hermetism; these are some of the evidences of great popular interest in the unknowable. Only persons with special intellectual equipment are able to measure, weigh, sift, and coordinate the novel phenomena gathered by researches in the field of hypnotism, psychology, and occultism; those of weaker mental powers fail to perceive the real significance of the discoveries and are led away into unprofitable and dangerous superstitions."

The practical alchemist flourishes especially in the United States; witness recent attempts to transmute metals, duly chronicled in these columns. But the home of the theosophical alchemist is in France, where, says Dr. Bolton, "there are to-day four societies and a university claiming to possess occult knowledge of hermetic mysteries," at least two of which work on lines similar to Freemasonry and claim to hold mysteries bequeathed by "dwellers in sanctuaries whence issued Krishna, Zoroaster, Hermes, Moses, Pythagoras, and Plato," not to mention the Egyptian priests, the Rosicrucians, and the Templars. The largest of the societies, the Alchemical Society of France, however, is constituted on more scientific lines, its object being "the theoretical and experimental study of evolution and of the transmutation of bodies. Its members, with this end in view, study the processes of the ancient alchemists and compare them with the work of modern chemists."

All these societies have combined to establish a new university, with three faculties—those of the hermetic sciences, the magnetic sciences, and spiritualism. Dr. Bolton gives enough of the theories and principles of this mystical class of philosophers to justify his modest disclaimer of power to understand them, which runs as follows:

"For a student of chemistry to read, digest, and write down in intelligible language, in a limited space, the principles of this new school of chemical philosophers is a difficult task, even for one somewhat familiar with the literature of the ancient alchemists; consequently the following analysis falls far short of the ideal. It is properly the work of a kabalist, a theosophist, and a magician, proud designations which the writer disclaims. The modern alchemists accept all the traditions of their ancient predecessors, but give them a new significance, and interweave the novel phenomena derived from researches in pure science."

In their theories, the idea of an inorganic evolution is prominent, the luminiferous ether being supposed to be the ancestor of hydrogen and this in turn of the denser gases, etc., while there is much juggling with chemical symbols and atomic weights. To quote again:

"The revival of alchemical pursuits in France finds concurrent sympathy in other parts of the world. Especially does this pseudo-art flourish in India, where the Sannyassis, a caste initiated in occultism, practise the transmutation of tin, zinc, copper, and mercury into silver, or at least into a metal resembling silver superficially. In the published recipes for effecting this change arsenic plays a prominent part, a substance used for the same deception by the alchemists of the Middle Ages. In China a belief in alchemy has existed from very early times; reprints of ancient treatises are still for sale, and the experimental phase is quietly studied by semi-educated persons."

Dr. Bolton makes no comment on the facts that he gives, but lets them speak for themselves. He closes, however, with a decidedly adverse remark by no less a critic than Francis Bacon, from whom he quotes the following words:

"I was ever of opinion that the philosopher's stone and an holy war were but the rendezvous of cracked brains that wore their feather in their heads."

Eating Before Going to Bed.—A writer in *Italia Termale*, quoted by *The National Druggist*, December, is not much in favor of the theory that late suppers are injurious. "He declares, in fact," says the latter paper, "that many persons who remain thin and weakly, in spite of all precautions in regard to diet, etc., owe the fact largely to habitual abstemiousness at night. He says, very truly, that physiology teaches us that, in sleeping as in waking, there is a perpetual waste going on in the tissues of the body, and it seems but logical that nourishment should be continuous as well. The digestion of the food taken on at dinner-time, or in the early evening, is finished, as a usual thing, before or by bed-time, yet the activity of the processes of assimilation, etc., progress for hours afterward, and, when one retires with an empty stomach, the result of this activity is sleeplessness, and an undue wasting of the system. 'All other creatures,' says the writer, 'outside of man, are governed by a natural instinct, which leads those having a stomach to eat before lying down for the night. The infant, guided by the same instinct, 'takes the breast' frequently, in the night as well as day, and if its stomach is allowed to remain empty too long it shows its discomfort by noisy crying. The digestive organs have no need for repose, providing, always, that the quantity of nourishment taken within the twenty-four hours does not go beyond the normal limit. The fact that the intervals between meals is short works no inconvenience, but, on the contrary, tends to the avoidance of feebleness which is the natural result of an interval extended to too great a length. Feeble persons, lean and emaciated people, and, above all, those suffering from insomnia, owe it to themselves not to retire without taking some nourishment into the stomach—bread and butter, a glass of rich milk, a few biscuits ('crackers'), or even a bit of juicy cold meat, for instance. We quite agree with the writer in all that he says in regard to the folly of the idea of the harmfulness of a light lunch before retiring."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

FROM experiments with the every-day use of spoons, forks, and vessels of aluminum, described by Léon Franck in the *Chemiker Zeitung*, the author concludes that for ordinary table purposes aluminum is a safe metal to use, and that it is also safe for vessels for boiling water. *Science* suggests that a similar series of experiments where salted foods and vegetables were cooked in aluminum vessels would be interesting and valuable.

COPPER-SHEATHED RAILROAD CAR.—"A passenger coach, finished with copper on the outside, instead of the usual paint and varnish, is in service on the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad," says *The Engineering and Mining Journal*. "The advantage claimed is that the cars are more readily kept in condition of cleanliness and brightness, and when it is necessary to send a car to the shops for an exterior overhauling it is ready for the service again in half the time required to paint and varnish it. All the wood-paneling and sheathing is made in precisely the same manner as at present, except a shade thinner, and a light coating of copper is formed around the wood, fitting closely into all curves and corners. Each piece of sheathing and its strip of copper are passed through the machine simultaneously and come out ready for use with the copper wrapped tightly around the wood. After the sheathing and other members are covered or plated with copper they are applied to the body of the car in such a manner that the exposed surfaces are not punctured by nails or other fastenings. All joints are water-tight. Only one car has thus far been finished in this way, and the copper on this car was oxidized, giving it a dark, glossy finish. The next car will be put on the road without this, as the copper will oxidize in the atmosphere. No paint or varnish is used on the outside of the car, excepting on the roof, platform, hoods, and window sash. The numbers and letters are made of cast aluminum and are attached by screws. The weight of the car is not increased by this method of finishing; in fact, in the car just put into service the weight was lessened."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

WERE THE JEWS RESPONSIBLE FOR CHRIST'S DEATH?

IT has been assumed for so many centuries that the Founder of Christianity was put to death by the Jews that most persons would hesitate about undertaking to refute the assumption. A learned Hebrew who is a French writer of prominence, M. Theodore Reinach, has, however, not shrunk from the task, and an article by him in the *Revue des Études Juives* (Paris, September) presents an acute argument in vindication of the Jews. The basis of his argument is a close and careful study of the four Gospels and the Acts. He begins by reminding us that the only non-Christian testimony to the life and person of Christ are found in a brief sentence of Tacitus and a paragraph of Josephus. Tacitus simply confirms the material fact of the punishment of Jesus ordered by Pontius Pilate, and there are some reasons for believing that the Roman historian knew nothing of what he told save what he had read in Josephus. This leaves the latter the only writer who can complete or control the story of the Evangelists.

The paragraph of Josephus has given rise to an immense literature. Every word of that paragraph has been studied and commented on. All the works of Josephus have been cherished by the Christian Church as a sort of preface to the Evangelists. He was neglected by the synagog because he had for personal reasons broken with it. It is certain, however, that he was all his life an orthodox Jew, firmly convinced of the truth of Judaism and without the slightest sympathy with Christianity. During the last fifty years, those who have studied most closely the paragraph of Josephus have come to the conclusion that there are interpolations in it which date very far back. After eliminating all these supposed interpolations, the text which all agree to be authentic reads thus:

"About this time appeared Jesus, called the Christ, a wise man (for he was a worker of miracles), who preached to men greedy of novelty; and he seduced many Jews and also many Greeks. Altho Pilate, upon the denunciation of leading men among us [*i.e.*, the Jews], had condemned him to the cross, those who had loved Him from the beginning of His public career did not cease to be attached to Him, and there still exists the sect which, from Him, has taken the name of Christians."

This text, so M. Reinach points out, besides the confirmation it gives of the story of the Gospel, contains two pieces of information of the highest importance:

"1. According to Josephus, Jesus had not preached the new doctrine to the Jews alone; He had also 'seduced many Greeks.' The Gospels say not a word about that. They declare the theater of the activity of Jesus to have been Galilee and Judea, to the exclusion of Greek towns. It is possible to infer from Matt. xv. 21–34 and Mark vii. 24–37, that Jesus made a journey to Phœnicia or the frontiers of that country; but save an insignificant miracle, performed in some sort unwillingly, He did nothing remarkable in that country; not a word indicates that He had made conversions there, and He says Himself explicitly to the Canaanitish woman: 'I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' . . . . .

"Josephus, in attributing to Jesus the 'seduction,' that is, the conversion, of many Greeks, was either guilty of an anachronism (quite excusable, considering the length of time which had elapsed between the events and his description of them), or has revealed to us a side of the activity of Jesus which is completely ignored by the Evangelists. The first of these explanations is the one I prefer. Luke, who, in his quality of companion of St. Paul, was a decided partizan of the propaganda among the Gentiles, could not have failed, in his Gospel, to give some hint of the efforts and success of Jesus among the Greeks if tradition had furnished the slightest support for such a thing; his silence proves that, in the best-informed circle, it was a matter of public notoriety that Jesus had limited His mission to the 'sheep of Israel' alone. From all this it follows clearly that, among the charges made against Jesus on His trial, there was not alleged a conversion of Greeks.

"2. The story of the trial of Jesus in the four Gospels is conflicting. Various efforts have been made to harmonize the four, but the efforts have but partially succeeded. The result of these harmonies has been to give the idea that Pilate was a good-natured but weak man, disposed to be clement, but not daring to resist the pressure of the crowd, and that he finally left the supreme decision 'to the voice of the people.' Apart from the fact that such a course would have been entirely alien to the Roman administration of the law, it is certain that this view of Pilate misrepresents him altogether. What was the real character of Pilate we know certainly from the pages of Philo and Josephus, who agree in depicting him as of an arbitrary and despotic nature, completely indifferent to the religious sentiments of those whom he governed, and shedding their blood without the slightest scruple. His conduct in two famous affairs relating to the standards and the aqueduct, the brutal vigor with which he stifled the movements of a Samaritan prophet, leave no doubt as to the ferocious and arbitrary character of the man who was finally recalled to Rome to answer for his brutal use of his powers. It is then morally certain that if Pilate sentenced Jesus to capital punishment, it was not to satisfy the outcries of the Jews, but to chastise an offense committed against the majesty or the security of the empire. In fact, even the narratives of the Evangelists enable us to see that the true reason, the only *legal* reason for the condemnation, was the usurpation, by Jesus, of the title of 'King of the Jews.' What then was the part played by the chiefs of the Jews in this proceeding? It has been inferred from the efforts made to harmonize the Gospels that there was a trial prior to that before Pilate, purely religious, held before the little Sanhedrin, in which Jesus was convicted of blasphemy and of seducing Jews from their faith, in disobedience of Hebrew laws, for which the punishment was death; but as the Sanhedrin had not the power to inflict capital punishment, the culprit was handed over to the secular authority. Now Josephus, in his 'Antiquities,' explicitly declares that the Roman Government prohibited the Sanhedrin from being convoked to try a criminal matter, without the express permission first had and obtained of the Roman procurator. No authorization of this kind is mentioned in the case of Jesus; and if it had been requested, it seems certain, from the well-established character of Pilate, that the request would have been refused.

"The paragraph of Josephus, with its laconic clearness, explains the true state of the case. Jesus was condemned by Pilate, says Josephus, upon the *denunciation* of leading Jews. These played the part of accusers, perhaps of witnesses, but not of judges, even in the first instance. The conclave of elders, counsellors, and scribes who decided to bring Jesus before Pilate can not be considered a regular tribunal, but a simple informal meeting. Surely, also, these improvised accusers took good care not to mention before the Roman governor the alleged crimes of Jesus against the Jewish religion, crimes about which they must have known that Pilate would not trouble himself at all. These alleged crimes were, indeed, the reasons for their intervention, but reasons which they kept to themselves. It was as a disturber of public order, as an aspirant to the crown of Judea, that they denounced Jesus; it was for this offense alone that Pilate, exercising freely his sovereign jurisdiction, condemned the prophet of Nazareth and sentenced him to be crucified—a punishment exclusively Roman—with the derisive inscription which declared the reason for his condemnation. Pilate did well to wash his hands; it is upon them, and upon them alone, that the blood which was shed, as on Macbeth, has left its ineffaceable traces.

"Jesus was put to death under an inexorable, tho perhaps barbarous, law, and for what was, under that law, a crime, which he tacitly confessed. Judaism has been expiating for nearly sixteen centuries, by daily humiliations and incessant persecutions, a pretended crime which it never committed and which it had not even the power to commit. It is not then the execution of Jesus, it is the long martyrdom of Israel, which constitutes the greatest judicial error in the history of man. It would seem to be full time to have done with this old legend and this old iniquity."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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THE METHODIST CONGRESS IN PITTSBURG.

SOMETHING in the nature of a new departure in Methodism was the Methodist Congress held in Pittsburg in the latter part of November, and the gathering is the subject of extended comment in the denominational press. The Congress was organized by Bishop John H. Vincent. It extended over six days (November 21–26), and had among its leaders and active participants representative Methodists from all parts of the country. The discussion ranged over a large field, but did not include any controversial issues within the denomination itself, the most of the subjects debated relating to sociology, economics, biblical research, evolution, and the higher criticism. In some editorial notes on the Congress the Pittsburg *Christian Advocate* (Methodist Episcopal) says:

"This Congress has proved that the church is not afraid of the discussion of any questions within her range. There are questions pressing upon public attention—scientific, sociological, economic, and of biblical research. They are live questions, and they will not be put down with a frown or a wave of the hand. Scholars are working at them, and the people are asking about them. They must be reckoned with. Teachers and leaders of the people must face them. The church is both a teacher and leader, and can not afford to attempt to frown on reverent and thoughtful investigation."

A writer in *The Northern Christian Advocate* (Syracuse), in giving some of his "Impressions" of the congress, says:

"I should not be surprised to hear it announced that the High Church party of Methodism was launched at Pittsburg. Each session of the Congress was opened with worship, which was ritualistic to a degree hitherto unknown in our church, so far as the writer has any information, since the days of John Wesley, and as he devoutly hopes may never generally obtain among the people called Methodists. . . .

"What will be the attitude of the church toward this congress and its deliverances does not come within the prophet's vision. But if I can read the signs of the times, the church will act the part of wisdom if she welcomes the message it has brought. One of our college presidents said to me that he thought it the greatest revival the church had experienced in a long time."

For a view from another denominational quarter, we have the following from *The Standard* (Baptist, Chicago). It says:

"The questions discussed were not controversial, and no such difference of opinion was developed as at our congress recently held in Chicago. Yet when we read that Prof. E. G. Conklin 'made it clear that it was quite possible to harmonize the doctrine of evolution, as held by the most distinguished scientists, with a belief in God, in the veracity of the Bible, and in the glorious destiny of man,' and that Prof. H. G. Mitchell defended the method, tho not all the results, of modern higher criticism, we are moved to remark that the 'limits of dissent' are shifting among our Methodist friends as well as in other quarters. Nobody seems to have been alarmed by these and similar utterances."

Evangelical Catholics in France.—The tendency of the French Catholics in the direction of greater independence of the Vatican—a tendency that has received in church history the distinctive title of Gallicanism—has of late manifested itself in an extreme form in what is called the Evangelical Catholic movement. This movement has, since October, had an official organ of its own in a journal published bimonthly, and called *Le Chrétien Français*," with the sub-title "Bulletin de la réforme evangelique dans le catholicisme." The editors are priests, both members of various religious orders and representatives of the secular clergy. More than twenty of these have formally severed their connection with the Roman Catholic Church.

It is claimed by this journal that the number of those who are longing for an evangelical revival in the Roman Catholic Church of France is quite large, and representatives of this spirit are found in about all the dioceses of the church, in every rank of the clergy, in priests' houses and in cloisters, most of these being adherents of the cause in secret, hesitating to break their connections with the church of their birth, but united in the conviction that the time has come for a free proclamation of the Gospel in the Catholic Church of France.

Among the leading articles of this journal is one entitled "La Réforme religieuse dans le clergé catholique," in which a detailed account is given of the deposing from office of Abbé Bourrier, vicar at Marseilles, by the ecclesiastical authorities, and the removal of Pastor Philippot, of Plomia, on account of their evangelical teachings. The confessions of faith prepared by both are reproduced and are characterized by evangelical doctrines, strongly akin to the positions of positive Protestantism. The clerical journal, *La Verité*, declares that this movement among the Catholic clergy of France is a dangerous agitation, the significance of which can not be overestimated. Most of the Protestant writers of Europe, tho not all, are of the same opinion as to the importance of the movement.

SHALL THERE BE ANOTHER PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS?

ANOTHER parliament of the world's religions is being agitated in connection with the Paris Exposition of 1900. Many who were interested in the one at Chicago during the World's Fair consider the Paris Exposition another great opportunity. Strong objections are heard, however, from some men of high position in the religious world, who think Paris the wrong place for such a parliament, or who think the time inopportune, or who are opposed to such a parliament in any place or any time. The Chicago *Inter Ocean* has collected the views of a number of eminent divines from different parts of the country, most of whom were participants in the Chicago parliament, and who, naturally, would not be opposed to the idea in itself.

The Inter Ocean says:

"What is possible in the United States in matters of religion may be utterly impossible in Europe. Here religion has no connection whatever with the state; in almost every country in Europe religion is part of the state. So that, in arranging a gathering on the same lines as that of 1893, the governments of the various countries would probably have to be consulted instead of religious bodies.

"So far as it can be discovered, there is a decided feeling in favor of another parliament, altho it can not be said that this feeling is general. The parliament of 1893 had no greater friend than the Roman Catholic Church, and now it is said that this same church is diametrically opposed to holding another on the same lines. And in any arrangements which are being made it should be remembered that in Continental Europe the Catholic Church is all powerful, and, in matters of this sort, where she leads others will follow. It is not possible that all will agree that a necessity exists for another exchange of religious opinion on a common platform, and the same people who objected to the parliament of 1893 may be expected to be equally loud in their denunciation of another. Dr. Barrows made some inquiries in Paris when he was abroad, and he thinks another parliament not only possible, but probable; but while the Chicago parliament of religions will afford many precedents for the next undertaking, it will not be copied in its entirety.

"The Abbé Charbonel was consulted by Dr. Barrows while he was in Paris, and it is understood that he thinks 'the intention is now not to hold a religious parliament after the fashion of the Chicago parliament, in which various denominations were officially represented, but simply to hold a congress of religious men, who come not as delegates, but on their own account, every one representing his own views and not the institution or church to which he belongs.'"

The general sentiment expressed by the clergymen canvassed by *The Inter Ocean* seems to favor a parliament at the Paris Exposition. Prof. Francis G. Peabody of Harvard University, who spoke at Chicago on "Christianity and the Social Question," writes:

"I look back upon the parliament of religions at Chicago as one of the great events of modern history and as a personal experience of profound impressiveness. As to any attempt to repeat

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such an occasion, my judgment would depend upon many questions of place, direction, and scope. It would be, in my opinion, unfortunate to arrange another such gathering on any smaller terms or in a less comprehensive spirit, and, on the other hand, an occasion of such great dimensions as that in Chicago means a great expenditure of time, skill, and money. It would be greatly to the advantage of the modern world, however, if the assemblage at Chicago could be paralleled."

Dr. David James Burrell, of the Collegiate Reformed Church in New York, and Prof. A. B. Bruce, of the Free Church College in Glasgow, the latter of whom participated at Chicago, heartily favor the idea. Rev. Philip S. Moxom, of Springfield, Mass. another participant in 1893, says:

"The parliament of religions in 1893 was so eminently beneficial in its influence and results that I am strongly predisposed to favor the holding of another in Paris in 1900. The experience of the first would be a valuable guide in organizing the second, and ought to make it even better. No single event during the century now closing has so powerfully promoted the mutual understanding and sympathy of representatives of the different religions of the world as the parliament in Chicago. This alone is sufficient to justify the holding of that parliament, and in my opinion is sufficient to justify the holding of another."

Rev. Joseph Cook makes a strong stand in favor of the parliament. It will be remembered that he was at first inclined to oppose the parliament at Chicago, but afterward became one of its firmest friends. He says, in part:

"Why should not the rich and novel experience gained in the first parliament of religions be utilized in a second parliament as at once pedestal and pattern, inspiration, and warning? There can be no more hermit religions, for there are now no foreign lands, and can be no more isolated nations. . . . It is a fact of great significance that the first parliament of religions, representing all the great historic faiths of the world, Christian and non-Christian, united in the use of the Lord's prayer, and in the devout championship of the ethical standards of the Decalog, and of the Sermon on the Mount. It is almost a crime against Christianity not to use the opportunity which modern civilization gives in its international unities of science, literature, and art to bring about also international unities of religious faith and life. A parliament of religions does not undervalue any ethical excellence it may find in any non-Christian faith. It recognizes all true light as proceeding from the Father of Lights. . . . To demonstrate its superiority to all other lights, Christianity, like the sun, has only to appear. One of the strategic points from which the whole world may be reached with illumination is the international assembly—scientific, commercial, educational, or religious. A parliament of religions seeks to occupy that point. There is an important distinction between parliamentary equality and doctrinal equality. It was the former which was granted in the first parliament of religions, but certain careless critics and some of the Oriental representatives mistook it for the latter. This error would not easily occur again. Parliamentary courtesy, which allows every one to be heard, is very different from doctrinal concession, which admits that one opinion is as wise as any other."

One of the most outspoken against the proposed parliament is Rev. Dr. Morgan Dix of Trinity Church of New York. Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott, who spoke at the 1893 parliament, is not in favor of another. Prof. Richard T. Ely, of the University of Wisconsin, and Bishop T. U. Dudley, of Kentucky, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, both participants in the 1893 parliament, do not think that another on the same lines would be profitable.

The Roman Catholic Church is opposed to the idea, if we may take as representative the view of two dignitaries high in the councils of the church. Rev. Dr. Thomas J. Conaty, now at the head of the Catholic University in Washington, is emphatically opposed to the plan, tho it was his predecessor, Bishop Keane, who arranged for Roman Catholic participation in the parliament of 1893. Archbishop Elder of Cincinnati, in explaining his opposition to the plan, says:

"My position in the matter will be better appreciated when the attitude of the Catholic Church is considered. She holds that, religion being the reuniting of man with God after his separation by sin, it is not for man but for God to teach us the way by which He is willing to receive us, and give us the means of accomplishing it. Our Lord Jesus Christ, God and man, did give that teaching and those means in His commission to His apostles: 'As my Father sent me, so I send you.' 'Go ye and teach all nations to observe all things whatsoever I have taught you.' 'Behold I am with you even to the end of the world.' 'He that heareth you heareth me.'

"Consequently religion is to be determined not by men discussing the merits of different doctrines, but simply by inquiring who is that body of teachers to whom our Lord gave this authority, and these promises. When they find that body of teachers then they know that its teachings are God's own truth. 'He that heareth you heareth me.' The men who constitute that body are in themselves weak men and liable to error like all other men, but He has promised that in His teaching He will not leave them to themselves. He will guard them against teaching any doctrine as His which is not really His own doctrine. 'I am with you all days to the end of the world.'

"From this it will be understood why I do not expect any fruit to come from assembling the representatives of various religions, however learned or good or sincere may have been the founders of them and may be their present teachers—however old and widespread. The one essential question is: Are they the body sent by God to teach me? Has He promised that whoever hears them hears God Himself? I do not know that any of them make claim of having such authority and promise."

Another clear and forcible expression of opinion comes from Rev. Theodore T. Munger, of New Haven. He has faith in the ability of the Christian religion to stand comparison and criticism, but has not so much faith in the Christian Church, and he gives the following reasons for his attitude:

"I am not disposed as yet to think that the parliament of 1893 was a mistake. It may have caused mischief abroad, but even that may eventually turn into good. It still seems to me to have been a wise thing to bring the religions of the world face to face. The result has been, and will be, to promote a fuller knowledge of one another, and this was very necessary, whatever the result of that knowledge may be. It was, on all sides, not comparison, but revelation. This revelation, so far, has not turned to the advantage of our American Christianity. We do not suffer by comparison with the Asiatic religions, but our weaknesses and defects and inconsistencies are made apparent, and the representatives of these religions have not been slow to make them known. As a consequence our missionaries suffer, but none the less was the revelation valuable; it was simply the truth. At present I am not inclined to the opinion that it is well to have another parliament of religions. I do not consider that our American and British Christianity is sufficiently developed to be put on exhibition. Here at home we know that it holds eternal and vital truths, but what a picture does it outwardly present—divided into more than one hundred and forty sects, unable to agree as to the meaning of its sacraments, and holding antagonistic opinions in respect to them; not agreed as to whether it has a priesthood or not; not agreed as to the meaning of the doctrine or fact on which it depends, namely, the death of Christ; churches holding mutually excluding interpretations of it; not agreed as to the person and nature of Jesus Christ, and not agreed as to the interpretation to be put on our sacred books. Our churches have in some cases no fellowship, and in others only a partial one.

"They will not commemorate the death of their own Lord and Master by sitting down together at His table; and yet we propose to go into a general parliament of religions to exhibit our religion by the side of the Asiatic religions, which are at least free from these horrible inconsistencies. Is it not better to stay at home a while and strive to mend these rents which at present are too many and great to make it presentable abroad? I think a general convocation of all Christian bodies for the sake of confession and humiliation and reconciliation would be more appropriate. In short, I see nothing to be gained by another parliament at present. We are now smarting, justly, under the criticisms of keen-minded Japanese and Hindus, and it is not best to give them another chance."

Mr. Munger's views are largely the result of correspondence he

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has had with people in India. One letter he recently received from Rev. W. M. Zumbro, of Pasumalai, South India, goes far to explain Mr. Munger's belief that the time is not yet ripe for another parliament. The letter says, in part:

"I remember hearing you say that you were not certain in your own mind as to whether you thought the parliament would be a good thing or a bad thing. The missionaries here are largely of the opinion that it has been on the whole a very bad thing. They say that Hinduism is much bolder and aggressive than ever before. They are openly and defiantly proclaiming the superiority of Hinduism over Christianity, and even defending their idolatry as better than the Christian worship, a thing which they say was never done before.

"Swami Vivekananda's visit to America and his recent return to India has given a wonderful impulse to Hinduism. He has given the impression that America is tired of Christianity, that most of the intelligent people there are ready to accept Hinduism, and he proposes now to inaugurate a movement which shall have for its effect the conversion of America to Hinduism. His name and fame have spread to almost every corner of this land, and he has great crowds to hear him wherever he goes.

"One of the boys in the college here, writing an essay the other day on the visit of Dr. Barrows, said that many people in America had become interested in Hinduism through Vivekananda, and that Dr. Barrows had been sent over here by the people of America to investigate Hinduism and find out what truth there was in it. For myself, I have always been inclined to believe that ultimate good would come from the parliament, and I am not yet ready to change my mind. I do not believe that the present attitude of Hinduism is more than a passing phase which will subside again, and will in the end be one of the means of breaking down the system which it is meant to uphold."

BAPTISTS AND OPEN COMMUNION AGAIN.

AS might have been expected, the questions raised at the recent Baptist Congress in Chicago, concerning the attitude of that denomination on the ordinance of baptism as a prerequisite to communion at the Lord's Supper (see LITERARY DIGEST, December 11), have excited a widespread interest in church circles. The Baptist papers generally are inclined to uphold stoutly the commonly accepted doctrine of their church with respect to the qualifications of communicants. Thus *The Commonwealth* (Baptist, Philadelphia) quotes a statement from *The Outlook* to the effect that, while historical scholarship has proved the Baptist right in his contention that primitive baptism was adult baptism, administered generally, if not always, by immersion, it has proved not the Baptist only but all the churches to be wrong in their traditional view of the relation between baptism and the Lord's Supper. In the early church generally, it is said, only those who united with the church were baptized, and generally only those sat down at the Supper of the church who were members of the church. "There is no authority for erecting this custom into a divine statute." "No baptism of any kind is a prerequisite to the communion."

On these statements *The Commonwealth* comments as follows:

"Things true and things doubtful are here needlessly mingled together, but the testimony is not without edification. It is true that the Baptists have won their contention concerning baptism, after some centuries of persistent struggle, and it is not likely that they will throw their victory away, with all its cost, no matter how thoughtless some of their brethren may be.

"It is also true that the relation of the Lord's Supper to baptism and church-membership is in no sense a specific 'Baptist question.' All Christian churches of every name and of every age hold the same position in this regard. Justin Martyr, writing before A.D. 140, less than fifty years after the death of the Apostle John, states this relation of the ordinances as it would be stated to-day. He says that in his time no one was permitted to partake of the Eucharist who did not (1) believe in Christ; (2) previously receive baptism; (3) give evidence of living a godly life. That is the 'traditional view' of the early church, and of all modern churches. The Baptists have no other interest in this phase of the question than have all their brethren. To talk of 'close communion' is to raise a false issue, and is to impute to us a position and spirit which we repudiate. We are 'close' as to baptism, just as 'close' as the New Testament, and *The Outlook* rightly says that we have won the victory in that conflict. This being so, the rest of the controversy will in due time settle itself."

A contribution to the discussion of special interest appears in *The Independent*, in which the Baptist writer and historian, Prof. Henry C. Vedder, D.D., of Crozer Theological Seminary, answers the direct question, "Are Baptists becoming open communionists?" The tenor of Professor Vedder's reply is in the negative. After conceding that the Baptist denomination is more tolerant than it was in former years of those holding views on the communion adverse to the church standards, he proceeds to give five points on the subject, "How far the Baptists of the United States are still close communionists." These points are as follows:

"1. It is certain that there has been no appreciable change in the professed beliefs of the churches. The articles of faith of Baptist churches are precisely what they were a generation ago. These all profess that baptism, by which is of course meant immersion, is the first duty of every believer, and add that 'baptism is a prerequisite to the privilege of the Lord's Supper,' or some equivalent form of word. . . . . .

"2. There has been no appreciable change in the matter of inviting to the Lord's table those whom Baptists regard as unbaptized. The testimony on this head is emphatic and unanimous. . . . . .

"3. There has been a great change in the matter of giving an invitation of any sort at the celebration of the Lord's Supper in Baptist churches. Two causes have doubtless been at work in producing this change. Many Baptist ministers, taking the New Testament as their guide, see no precedent or authority for such an invitation. They push to an extreme the idea that the communion is a church ordinance, and hold that it is for the local body exclusively. They would invite nobody to the table who is not a member of the church that spreads it, not even other baptized believers, not even members of sister churches. This view has rapidly gained ground until probably in a majority of Baptist churches, in the Northern States at least, no invitation at all is now given. . . . . .

"4. There has been a much more marked change in the attitude of Baptist churches toward persons who remain at the communion service on their own responsibility or at the invitation of members of the church. A generation ago in most Baptist churches a stranger who came to the table would be asked by one of the deacons if he were a Baptist ('a member of a sister church of the same faith and order' would be the formal phrase, most likely); and if he replied in the negative he would be requested to withdraw to the gallery or side pews. Or if a deacon knew a given person to be a member of a non-Baptist church, he would pass such a person by in serving the communicants with the bread and wine. It is possible that there may be a few Baptist churches yet in districts that have been asleep for thirty years, where the same thing would be done; but their number must be very few. . . . . .

"5. There has been an equally marked change in the matter of church discipline for infraction of the traditional communion rule. In former days a Baptist who was known to have joined in communion with a church not 'of the same faith and order' would have been put under discipline as if he committed a serious moral offense; and if he did not profess penitence and promise not to offend again, the hand of fellowship would surely be withdrawn. Covetousness, which according to the Apostle is idolatry, might go undisciplined in a Baptist church, but not communing with a Methodist or Presbyterian church. The churches are few in which a member would be disciplined now for occasionally communing with a church of another denomination, especially if he were temporarily residing at a distance from any Baptist church and near one of another denomination.

"The changes recorded in the last two paragraphs, it is proper to say, have taken place almost exclusively in the Northern Baptist churches. From the Ohio River southward the old order still obtains: rigid exclusion from the table of all but Baptists, and strict discipline of all Baptists who commune in churches of a different faith."

The general position of the Baptist denomination as thus outlined is also confirmed by *The Journal and Messenger* (Baptist, Cincinnati).

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FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

SEARCHING FOR THE "GOOD OLD TIMES."

WHEN were the "good old times"? What was the exact date of that much-talked-of and much-sighed-after epoch? One of these terrible German investigators has been asking some such questions and in the vain effort to find the exact time and place of the "good old days" he has gone back in vain to the dawn of history and the era of hieroglyphics! Theodor Kundhausen is his name, and in *Ueber Land und Meer*, Leipsic, he shows that, strange to say, the time of perfect peace and contentment never was. We summarize his article as follows:

The "good old times" were not a quarter of a century ago, that's plain, for the editor of the *Evangelische Kirchen Zeitung* then wrote: "Every one is anxious to get rich quickly and without working, in our times. This craving after wealth rapidly acquired demoralizes society more than anything else." Nor was it fifteen years earlier, when the *Kreuz Zeitung* said: "Now at last, when immorality is increasing at such a frightful rate, a reform movement is begun to reduce the evil. It is terrible! Carnal pleasures are followed by every one, and they all want to make money, no matter how."

Let us go back a little further. In 1846 Lashmann complains of the "materialistic tendency of our times." In 1822 Freiherr v. Stein summarized his observations as follows: "The country is overpopulated, our industries are too rapidly progressing, there is much overproduction, and we live too well." Stein must have been mistaken if he thought that this illustrated the attitude of the Prussian people only in his own time, for in 1807 Niettrammer, the philologist, wrote that "the feverish chase after money and profit rules our times." Perhaps the "good old times" are to be found in the eighteenth century. But, alas! Frederick the Great complains bitterly; he says he is "tired of ruling people with the minds of slaves." Again, in 1733, Albrecht Haller wrote that "the hearts of our citizens, the very marrow of the state, is hollow and rotten. History will record how soon the downfall of the country followed the decline of morals." During the Thirty Years' War nobody will look for the "good old times," and, indeed, Georg Wilhelm of Brandenburg, in an edict, wrote as follows: "The people lead vile lives; murder, highway robberies, blood feuds, and arson are defiling the country." So we travel back to the times of the Reformation, and read in a letter of Johann von Nassau to William of Orange, in 1583, that "the people are blind to what is good; the lust for gain on the one hand, suspicion and pessimism on the other, are increasing." No wonder, then, that the social reformer found plenty of work to do among the wealthy burghers of the times. In 1565 the Hamburg Senate passed laws against luxury and immorality, and in 1505 the sumptuary ordinance of the city of Magdeburg began with the words, "in consideration of the fact that the manners and the appearance of the people have, of a verity, changed much," and the citizens are accused of filthy habits, want of order, a desire to make a show, irreligiousness, violation of the Sunday laws, disregard of the sacredness of an oath, and disobedience generally to the authorities.

We stand on the threshold of the Middle Ages. We hear the agonized cry of a peasant carried to barbarous execution: "Wo is me, already must I die, yet have I never in my life been able to eat my fill!" The Frankfurt Diet in 1442 reports "much robbery, murder, eke arson," and Walter v. d. Vogelweide, the troubadour, sings of "the golden spring of good old times," when love and freedom, manly dignity and truth and holiness were found. "How pitiful is the conduct of young men nowadays!" he exclaims. A confessional manual by Burkard v. Worms, in the year 1000, shows what searching questions were thought necessary by the priests, and in 881 Ratpert the Monk regards an invasion of the Northmen as just punishment for the wickedness of *his* contemporaries. In 430 Salvian writes: "How the wealthy of our times rob the poor and ruin the country is best known to the Spanish provinces, of whom the name alone remains, and to the African provinces, which are ruined, and Gallia, which has been devastated."

Ancient history does not encourage our search for "the good old times." Lactantius, a contemporary of Constantine the Great, declares that "the country is ruined by overtaxation, the peasants leave their acres, and land which should be cultivated is changed into forest." Throughout the entire period of Imperial Rome we meet with the complaint that agriculture is declining, that superstition is rampant, and morals are bad. The purer spirits of those times always wished for "the vanished past, when men led natural lives and civilization was not." Suetonius and Tacitus prove to us that "the good old times" were not with them. Perhaps we find them with the republic of Rome. But Cicero denies it, and Caius Lucilius wonders if Rome is still worthy of the protection of the gods. The scandal cases of 186 B.C. prove that reform was necessary even then, and that the authorities were forced to legislate against immorality and the destruction of family life. Cato's thunderings against the immorality of *his* times and his praise of "the good old times" are well known, but the bitter class wars of the ages before his birth do not lead us to think we are very close to the object of our search.

Turning to Greek literature, we find that Polybius complains of corruption and the waste of public funds, of poverty, of childless marriages, and ruin of the country. Strabo relates that the Theban villages were devastated during the time of the Macedonian empire. Isocrates suggests the founding of colonies where tramps may be employed. Lysias accuses the Athenian courts of corruption. Demosthenes declares that he would not believe Timothy, Athens's best general, under oath. Aristophanes accuses his contemporaries of greed, demagogism, and immorality, and points to "the good old times."

Herodotus relates how the country of Miletus was devastated, and, during the sixth and seventh century B.C., the saying "money makes the man" was well known in Greece.

The Jewish prophets complain of the corruption of *their* times, and tell of widows and orphans plundered by the rich, of the poor sold into bondage by the strong and wealthy. Solomon's reign is supposed to mark the most brilliant epoch in the history of Palestine, but we hear that his contemporaries complain of their hardships and wish for "the good old times." Even the hieroglyphics tell us of men who were unhappy and enslaved.

The writer closes his article with the following remarks:

It is plain that every age has its aches and pains, but also its comforts and pleasures, and tho it is quite just to mention the faults of our own times, we should not forget its material and intellectual advantages. Many who complain of our times would, if the "goloshes of fortune" could place him in a former generation, wish himself back again.—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE FUTURE OF CUBA.

UNLESS General Blanco can speedily terminate the insurrection in Cuba, there are many signs that Spain, heartily tired of the struggle, may renounce the island altogether. The prevalent opinion in Europe is that this would mean civil war in Cuba until such a time as the negroes, better able to stand the climate, gained the upper hand. It is not thought that the United States will attempt to make conquests in a climate which the constitution of the Spanish soldiers failed to withstand successfully, and there is no assurance that the Cubans would ask Uncle Sam to annex them. The Latin-Americans generally, tho they dislike Spain, have still stronger repugnance to our own republic, and reecho sentiments such as the following in the *Chileno*, Valparaiso, a paper of much influence throughout Spanish America. It says in substance:

Tho we South Americans may sympathize much with the Cuban cause, we can not but regard as odious the pressure which the United States chooses to exercise in this conflict, for we know well enough that her motives are not humanitarian, but purely ambitious. It is not republican principle that moves the Americans, but the desire to get hold of a good thing. . . . We certainly would like to see Cuba free, but we have no wish to see her transformed into a Yankee province.

Expressing its astonishment that there should be papers in

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South America that approve of the filibustering expeditions from the United States, the *Chileno* says:

"Just as the United States to-day interferes with the affairs of Spain, she has on former occasions meddled with South American matters. Yankee politics are still the same. In view of the fact that South American states are weak, but immensely rich, they proclaim the Monroe doctrine, which simply means: South America for the North Americans! To-day they oppose themselves to Spain, which luckily is strong enough to resist; to-morrow they will interfere in our frontier differences, and compel us to give up a port to them—all for the good of republican rule!"

The *Temps*, Paris, relates that the insurgent leaders do their best to keep the knowledge of the advantageous terms offered to Cuba from the Cubans, but that General Blanco is determined to prove his good faith, especially in the matter of economic reforms. Sagasta, the Spanish Premier, is still hopeful. He has told a reporter of the *Journal*, Paris, that he believes the United States Government will in future keep a better lookout for filibustering expeditions. But there is much pessimism in Spain. Pablo Alzola expresses himself to the following effect in the *Revista Contemporanea*, Madrid:

If the rebellion can not be put down (and such previous experiences as those of Haiti, San Domingo, and even Cuba herself show that the task is difficult for European troops), it is best to let the island go altogether. The greatest mistake we made was to guarantee Cuba's debt, which is already $400,000,000, rather more than the island is worth. The honor of Spain will not suffer if we release the island. We retired from Santo Domingo without loss of honor. So did France from Mexico and Italy from Abyssinia. Nations do not need colonies. Belgium, which has no colonies, is in a flourishing condition. Portugal, whose colonial empire is immense, is not in a flourishing condition. To be plain, the task of ruling a colony with a deadly climate, inhabited by an ever-hiding enemy, is too much for Spain. It is best to withdraw altogether.

Most European papers seem to think that Spain will, indeed, withdraw unless the insurgents soon submit, or are crushed by General Blanco after having been weakened by desertions. Curiously enough, a new idea is advanced at this date. The *Liberté*, Paris, believes that the insurgent chiefs should be recognized as holding rank as military officers, and be permitted to retain the prefix general, colonel, major, etc., to their names. The paper believes that the insurgent leaders care more for this than for any political or economic concessions.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

EUROPE AND HER "TRANSOCEANIC DANGER."

GRAF GOLUCHOWSKI'S speech to the Hungarian delegates, in the course of which he referred to the "transoceanic danger which will compel Europe to stand shoulder to shoulder," has been discussed as widely in Europe as in this country. There is, however, much divergence of opinion as to what the Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs really meant. Many publications of weight indorse the American view that Goluchowski fears American competition. But they do not altogether share his pessimism. Another feature of the comments is to the effect that each country is inclined to concede to others the honor of leading in this predicted combination against the United States. The most serious feature of the matter is that some papers, chiefly German, advocate political as well as economic antagonism to America.

The Spectator, London, says:

"He [Goluchowski] went into no details, and the journalists, therefore, of the different countries are treating his utterance as a mystical text, obviously of importance, but requiring further interpretation. The Austrian, say one set of commentators, is menacing America. No, say another set, he is indorsing William II.'s view, and Mr. Pearson's view about the 'Yellow Peril.' Not so, comments a third set, he is only hinting that if the British Empire binds itself together by a new Zollverein the Continent must federate itself for a war of tariffs, or even a more dangerous war. . . . We think that Count Goluchowski was referring to a danger much less visionary, and which presses at this moment very sharply both on Germany and on Austria-Hungary, the danger that, just at the moment when transoceanic competition, aided in one way by high American tariffs, threatens the artisans of Middle Europe, the excessive production of cereals and of meat in America, Argentina, India, and even Australia, threatens the remaining workers who are employed in agriculture. . . . But just as this conclusion is reached comes news that America will enter the competition and refuse to be a market any longer, while the whole of Asia, where the human race is accustomed to live on little, is stirring itself to see whether it can not

GRAF GOLUCHOWSKI.

manufacture all the goods it wants, or, indeed, all goods whatever, at very low rates. It probably can. . . . The truth is there is nothing to be done except to bear competition in patience, using, so far as may be, the superior intelligence of European captains of labor, machinists, and inventors until success in the competition develops among Asiatics new wants, a higher rate of wages, and a greater reluctance to work excessive hours. . . . As soon as it is complete, and commerce is free, each country will produce what it is best qualified to produce; and we may rely on it that Europe, with its superior energy and brain, and habit of organization, will not be left hopelessly lagging in the race."

The Speaker has no fear that the Continental nations will make good their often-uttered threat that they would enforce free trade in the British Empire by force of arms if Great Britain were to attempt protectionism, or that they could if they would. The paper says:

"The nations of the Continent, if it so please them, must stew themselves in their own juice. We, at any rate, are more fortunate. We have a world-wide empire, and even our protectionism, if it come, will take the form of inter-imperial free trade. But, unless we too are possessed by a nationalism which can only turn to the benefit of the financier and the landlord, we shall stick to sound economics, and not refuse the good things of America because we can only produce them more expensively ourselves."

The *Journal des Debats*, Paris, thinks the Austrian Minister's

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expression on this subject too vague to be discussed. The *Independance Belge* is quite certain that America is meant, and believes that Goluchowski must have conferred with the other partners of the Triple Alliance ere he uttered a threat against the United States. The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, says:

"It is clear that this is an economic declaration of war against the United States, a protectionist rallying-cry. The warning can not but have a beneficial effect on the other side of the ocean, for it is of immense importance. Austria did not fail to occupy a position of protest as soon as the Dingley tariff had been adopted, and Germany gave vent to her dissatisfaction in a similar manner. If, therefore, Graf Goluchowski speaks openly of defensive measures, the two governments must have sounded each other on the subject. We may now expect a European union against the economic policy of the United States—certainly a matter of much political importance as well."

In Germany there is certainly a strong party which does not care how soon a barrier is raised to American importations, and whose organs do not scruple to create political coolness between the United States and Germany by holding the Americans and their Government responsible for the alleged jingoism of their press. But the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, Bismarck's organ, thinks there is no reason why Germany, or the Triple Alliance, should take the initiative against America. In a lengthy article the paper expresses itself to the following effect:

The United States aims not only at the annexation of Cuba and the rest of the West-Indian possessions of European powers, but also at hegemony over the entire American continent and the exclusion of European trade from South and Central America. What that means may be easily understood from the fact that Europe sells goods to the value of over $500,000,000 annually in those countries. Europe, therefore, has cause enough to veto Pan-Americanism and to stop its progress even by force of arms, if necessary. This could easily be done, altho the Americans are great at boasting and act as if they could stamp armies and navies out of the ground. But Germany's interests are secondary to those of England and France. The former has the biggest trade at stake, and the latter has long since made arrangements with Spain to support Spain in the West Indies. If France and England move, they will have the support of the Triple Alliance, and then the United States will better realize its own position. —*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

MUST A GOOD SOLDIER BE A GOOD CHRISTIAN?

THE German Emperor, in his early days, was rather inclined to put a slight valuation upon religion; afterward he became the exponent of simple theism as embodied in the expressions of Bismarck and other prominent Germans; he is now more inclined to favor orthodox Christianity as understood by the majority of English-speaking peoples. The Empress, it is said, has largely influenced her husband in this, but his friendship for many prominent Catholics is also regarded as a cause of his increased regard for religion. Catholic writers are certainly inclined to defend him, and a writer in *United Ireland* recently declared that the animosity of the British press against him is chiefly due to his friendliness toward the Catholic Church. On the other hand, the Radical press believe the Emperor should be less pronounced in his religious views, and the following passage in a speech to the recruits of the guards is especially criticized:

"In taking the oath of allegiance to the colors, you German men have vowed to be true, as good Christians should vow, under God's free heavens, before His altar and upon the cross. He who is not a good Christian is not a good man nor a good Prussian soldier, and he can not possibly fulfil the duty of a soldier in the Prussian army. This duty is not light; it includes the exercise of self-command and self-denial—the two highest Christian attributes—and unqualified obedience and subordination to the will of your superiors. But you have plenty of historical examples. Thousands before you have taken the oath and kept it."

The *Volks-Zeitung*, Berlin, refers to the many examples of brave soldiers who were not Christians, both in ancient and in modern history. The paper then continues:

"We believe that the qualifications of a soldier are altogether independent of his religious faith. Else the recruits would have to be examined very rigorously regarding their religious feeling and whether they lead truly Christian lives. Moreover, all Prussians or Germans who are Jews, or who, for other reasons, can not be included among the Christians, would have to be excluded from the army on principle. More than that, nobody could be forced to fulfil duties for which his religious principles do not fit him." *

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* wants to know why the Jews are required to take the oath if it is known that they can not keep it. The *Vossische* talks of Turks, Magyars, Hindus, and heathens "who have been brave soldiers and good men," and asks if the Emperor's words are to be taken literally. These papers, however, like many others of the best edited in Germany, are said to be controlled by the Jews, who, tho they form only one per cent. of the population, are said to influence more than half the German press. The Berlin *Tageblatt*, another pronouncedly Jewish paper, says:

"The Jews did not become liable for service in the Prussian army until 1812. In 1813–15 five hundred of them served as volunteers, proving that they were as patriotic as their Christian fellow-citizens, a fact which has more than once been acknowledged officially. . . . In 1870–71 they certainly did their duty; three

SATAN (joyfully): "Now I remember what I put that knot in my tail for! I wanted to see if I couldn't get some of those good soldiers who got into heaven down into my department.—*Kladderadatsch, Berlin.*

[The issue of *Kladderadatsch* containing this cartoon was confiscated because of its reflections on the Emperor.]

* The Mennonites, who refuse to carry arms, are installed in the Prussian army as non-combatants.—*Editor* of THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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hundred and twenty-seven of them were decorated with the Iron Cross."

The *Kleines Journal*, Berlin, which attempts to popularize "yellow journalism" in Germany, tho the tint is still somewhat faint, fears that such criticisms will add fuel to antisemitism, and gives the following explanation:

"The Israelitic recruits are sworn in at their own place of worship, and the Emperor addressed himself to his fellow Christians only. If the commander-in-chief says that, in his opinion, a Christian can be a good soldier only if he is a good Christian, it means practically the same as when the rabbi tells the Jewish recruits that he who is not a pious Jew is not a good Jewish soldier. . . . What the Emperor meant is that the faith in God makes good soldiers, and as he addressed himself to a Christian congregation he spoke from a Christian point of view."

The Christian organs are very much displeased with the attitude of the Jewish Liberal and Radical papers. The *Kreuz Zeitung* asks if the Emperor is to shut his mouth for fear of offending the Jews. The *Staatsbürger Zeitung* says:

"Our Emperor, himself a good Christian and a good German, remembers that Christianity is the basis of the German state, and tells the recruits of his guards that they must uphold Christianity. Only the worst intent of Jewish papers and their followers can misinterpret his words, especially as the Jews and other non-Christian recruits had already been sworn in. Is the Emperor to be denied the privilege of speaking as a Christian to Christian men? . . . We would be glad to hear that the Jews have been freed from the obligation to serve in the army. They could be made to pay a tax instead, and the army would be rid of their influence. They regard the duty of military service as irksome, anyhow, while we others look upon it as an honor."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE NAVAL DEMONSTRATION BEFORE PORT-AU-PRINCE.

THE trouble between Haiti and Germany seems to be over. The German training-ships cruising in the West Indies were ordered to Port-au-Prince, where their commander demanded the acceptance of the following ultimatum within eight hours: 1. An indemnity of $30,000 for Emil Lüders. 2. The right of Lüders to reside in Haiti, as before. 3. Official expressions of regret on the part of the Haitian Government. 4. Official reception of Graf Schwerin, the German representative, by President Sam. The German ships cleared for action, the foreigners sought refuge on board the ships in port, but the threatened bombardment—first of the forts, later of the city—proved to be unnecessary. Haiti acquiesced within the appointed time. It is claimed that foreigners of all nationalities will benefit by the affair. The *Hamburger Nachrichten*, Hamburg, says:

"The Lüders case is not a solitary one. Foreigners in Haiti are without any protection except the cannon of their several countries. Not only are they prohibited from owning real estate, they may not even settle in the interior. Ten towns on the coast are alone open to them. They may not sell at retail, and they must make use of Haitian agents to buy the produce of the country. The people are imbued with the most violent nativism, and do all they can to annoy the foreigners, without whom they nevertheless can not get along."

The Haitian papers made use of strong threats before the arrival of the war-ships. The *Drapeau* threatened a massacre of the Germans of Port-au-Prince. The *Ralliment* declared that Haiti had no need to accept dictation at the hands of a power so weak at sea as Germany. The *Impartial* said:

"Let them come, those Germans! We are ready to die and to kill—first to kill! If a squadron appears to bombard us and take away our ships, we will blow up our ships, and for every cannon-ball thrown into the city the life of a German shall be taken. We will cut their throats from ear to ear, and the first to be killed will be the German representative!"

The four ships of the Haitian navy could not well attempt resistance. They are old, and weakly armed. In tonnage, armament, and crews, they hardly equal one of the two German schoolships, which are much more formidable than is generally supposed, tho they are of the pattern in vogue twenty-five years ago, carrying 20 quick-firing guns, 5 or 6 Maxims or Gatlings, and 450 to 460 men each. Hence President Sam published a proclamation to the following effect in the *Moniteur*:

For the second time Haiti has been forced to relinquish her rights in the face of the superior strength of Germany. The Government did not find it easy to submit. Until the last moment we were inclined to resist. But the moral assistance which had been promised to our country was refused to us at the last hour, and we were forced to accept the ultimatum.

The expression, "for the second time," refers evidently to the Dieckman case in 1872, when the German gunboats took possession of the Haitian ships until $15,000 indemnity had been paid, when the Haitian navy was returned to its proper owners. The words "moral support" are supposed to mean the protection of the United States. There is absolutely no foundation for the belief that the United States interfered in the matter to even as great an extent as England, which offered to arbitrate. The attitude of the United States has been one of strict neutrality. It is, however, thought that the Haitians were misled by the utterances of some American newspapers, which were not taken seriously in Europe. The *Temps*, Paris, says:

"President Sam and his cabinet thought that convenient Monroe doctrine could be stretched to apply in their case. They were, however, mistaken. The United States is not anxious to advertise or extend her solidarity of negro states. That Washington, in its foreign policy, does not consider the relative strength of nations is the last reproach that could be urged against her. America has no wish to embroil herself with Germany merely for the *beaux yeux* of the black republic."

It is said that France and Italy also contemplate naval demonstrations to collect some outstanding accounts in Haiti. There are also some American grievances to be settled. The French ships in harbor at Port-au-Prince during the German naval demonstration confined themselves to measures for the protection of the French residents in case of a riot against the foreigners among the negro population. The Americans gathered at the American Legation.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

ENGLAND'S FRONTIER WAR IN INDIA.

THE Indian frontier war is still dragging on. Altho General Lockhart, exasperated by the determined resistance of the hill tribes, leaves village after village in smoke and ruins, and altho the winter must necessarily hamper the hillmen as well as the British, the former have so far rejected the British commander's terms. They have taken their families, their cattle, and their supplies to fastnesses as inaccessible as the strongholds of the Cretan mountaineers or the jungles of Cuba. Hence there is an increased demand in England for the abandonment of the "forward policy" on the Indian frontier, especially as the war to some extent prevents the British Government from acting with its accustomed energy elsewhere. *The Speaker*, London, says:

"Everybody must now be alive to the fact that we are at present engaged in a campaign the magnitude of which has not been approached by any English campaign of the present century. We have an army in the field twice as large as that with which Wellington confronted Napoleon at Waterloo, and more than twice as large as that which Lord Raglan commanded in the Crimea. This army is engaged in daily skirmishes with the foe, and almost every day the newspapers have to record some new

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casualties by which the lives of brave men of our own race have suddenly been cut short. We earnestly hope that the worst is over so far as the military situation is concerned, and that before long Sir William Lockhart will be able to report that his campaign is at an end. But this, unfortunately, is by no means certain; and, even if it were to prove to be the case, the costs of the victory thus achieved have still to be borne. Both in life and in treasure those costs can only be described as enormous."

The Illustrated News, Edinburgh, in common with the majority of our British contemporaries, admits that the British Government broke faith with the liberty-loving hill tribes when it established forts in their country; but the paper thinks that this breach of faith is not as important as other phases of the struggle. It says:

"The important thing is that we still as a nation hanker after a forward policy in India after the object-lessons we have already had. The question at issue is not as to the outcome of the present military operations, but as to the ultimate policy to be adopted on the Indian frontier. One school holds that our policy should be one of aggression, that we should go forward and meet Russia long before she approaches the confines of India. . . . Of course, the military men are mainly responsible for the present policy; and that, again, is due to the fact that India is without a great masterful personality. Lord Lawrence would never have allowed himself to be dominated by the military men as Lord Elgin has done; and in the absence of a strong man in India the country is at the mercy of every figurehead who happens to be at the India Office in London."

The Daily Mail insists "that General Lockhart must be given a free hand." It says:

"Only an ignorant political fanatic would wish to stay the hand of General Lockhart in the course of his present work. The war must be finished, and we must win. Eastern folk, like Boers, have no delicate appreciation of a generous enemy, and unless we administer a very severe punishment, and prove our superiority beyond doubt, we shall be troubled by the tribes for all time with expeditions *ad lib*. But afterward? Shall we force upon the native of India (and the heavily taxed white man there) the cost of the maintenance of an army of occupation of these dreary haunts of starvation? . . . One hopes not. For the sake of the present Government, for the sake of the Indian welfare, for the sake of the Nile campaign, for the sake of our men and their officers, for the sake of our rights in South Africa, for the sake of our empire, we hope not."

The Spectator, replying to Mr. John Morley, who thinks that modern British imperialism is following in the dangerous lines which led to the downfall of Napoleon I., says:

"If all empires were like those of Rome and Carthage or of the Napoleons, we should agree that the idea of empire was associated with tyranny and instability, and tainted with sordidness and crime, and ought, therefore, to be condemned and avoided by all lovers of their country. But we deny that the Roman or the Napoleonic is the necessary and only type of empire. There is another, and perfectly different, type of empire, the English type, which is neither tyrannical, nor unstable, nor sordid, nor criminal. . . . Look at India. There, if anywhere, English imperialism is to be judged, for there our domination is complete. Can it be said that our rule is tyrannical? We must not of course, judge India by the standard of Middlesex, but can it, in view of the local circumstances, be said that India is oppressed? . . . The governed do not, of course, choose their governors; but granted that, it is not too much to say that there is as much personal freedom in India as there is in France, and a great deal more than in Germany."

On the continent of Europe it is thought that the present Indian frontier war will keep Great Britain busy for a considerable time, and that she will be little inclined to oppose the colonial ambitions of other powers while it lasts. The *Journal des Debats*, Paris, says:

"The territory in which the troops are operating is one of the most mountainous of the world, and advance is extremely hazardous. We say 'advance,' but the term is hardly applicable. . . . The British losses are heavy, about 300 during a recent engagement, and the troops are tired out with watching and night engagements. If a column loses its way, it is cut off. The winter has set in, and the Indian soldiers, accustomed to the humid, hot atmosphere of the plains, suffer extremely on account of the climate. The army will have enough to do to defend itself in its winter quarters. . . . General Lockhart has offered terms, not very heavy ones either: 800 rifles, some hostages, a fine of 50,000 rupees, and the right of the British to fortify the Khaibar Pass. It is, however, doubtful that the Afridis will accept, especially as they must forego former advantages."

The German papers fancy that the situation is much more grave than the English will admit. The *Hamburger Nachrichten* says:

"Despite all its bravery, the British army proves once more that it is as unfit for warlike expeditions as ever. The training, even the arming, of the infantry is faulty. The organization is cumbersome. Miserable mobilization, confusion in the assembly and preparation of the troops and the reserves, inadequate supply of ammunition, and a badly organized commissariat render it impossible for a British army to appear with crushing force. . . . Hence the worry of the Anglo-Indian authorities over the dubious attitude of the Ameer of Afghanistan, who can advance with a strong force—at least 50,000 regulars—when he thinks the hill tribes have weakened the English. . . . It is easy to imagine what effect a total retreat from the hills would have upon the people of the Indus Valley, inhabited by 60,000 Mohammedans, who have been prepared for a holy war by the emissaries of the Ameer. . . . If Russia then makes use of her opportunities, England, powerless as she is, would be forced to leave the gates of India in Russia's hands, and thank her stars if she does not lose India altogether."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

FOREIGN NOTES.

AN English statistician has figured out that in the year 2301 there will be no further use for insane asylums because there will be no sane persons left to lock up the crazy ones! He takes the average increase of insanity during the past forty years as the basis of his calculation.

INVESTIGATION has proven that the rifles with which the Indian border tribes carry on their struggle against Great Britain are of Birmingham manufacture, and imported into Asia *via* the Gulf of Persia. Naturally there is somewhat of an outcry against the merchants who sell these weapons.

THE press of the far East is drawing attention to the fact that "shanghaiing" is being revived in American ports. Men are drugged or even simply knocked on the head in American ports, and conveyed on board short-handed vessels, where they are sold to the captain for twenty to forty dollars a piece. The worst part of it is that the victim is made to pay the sum for which he has been sold, for it is charged against him as "advanced pay."

THE city of Florence contemplates the establishment of a unique library: a collection of all the books prohibited by the Roman Catholic Church. A beginning has already been made, for Count Pietro Guicciardini has gathered most of the works regarding the Reformation that have been placed on the index. There are over nine thousand of them. These books are in the care of the Protestant congregation in Florence, tho they have been placed in the National Library.

THUS says the St. Thomas, Ont., *Journal*: "John Sullivan's English may not be as elegant as desired in one who aspires to become chief magistrate of Boston, but his remarks in Montreal show that he possesses powers of observation as well as common sense. Speaking of the shooting of the miners of Hazleton he said: 'Turn it round. Do you suppose the sheriff would have shot into a lot of mine-owners if they'd been walking down the road? Not on your necktie! An' if the sucker did, would he get off on $6,000 bail? It would be a billion!'"

FRENCH shipping is slowly but steadily declining. All the subsidies and premiums paid to shipowners and shipbuilders seem valueless in preventing this decline, which is as difficult to account for as the disappearance of the Dutch flag from the seas during the last century, and the extinction of the famous American sailors. In 1860 there were still 500 candidates for examination for master's mates, in 1890 only 125. Less French ships pass through the Suez canal than German, Italian, and even Dutch. The Dutch shipping, in fact, shows renewed activity.

A VERY brave British officer, who is, however, very diffident in the society of the fair sex, recently sailed from Australia. On the evening of the ship's departure, the major, lightly clad, rushed into the smoking-room, exclaiming that there was a woman in his cabin. He refused to return to his cabin, and slept on the seats of the smoking-room. The steward, who was quite certain he had billeted the major with another officer, investigated the other passenger's trunk in the morning, to see if some joke had been perpetrated upon the proverbially modest major. The trunk bore the legend: Captain Higginson; and contained the well-known accoutrements of the female members of the Salvation Army!

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MISCELLANEOUS.

NO LEISURE TO GROW WISE.

THE rush of modern life, the quick intercommunication between nations and between the different parts of a nation, the wonderful developments of applied science and the quickening of all the processes of civilization due thereto—are all these working out results beneficent to mankind, or the reverse? Will the civilization built upon them endure, or go its way with preceding civilizations? Are we on the whole, so far as the deeper things of life are concerned, better or worse off than the ancients? These are some of the questions aroused by the Harveian oration this year (in England) delivered by Sir William Roberts.

Sir William takes a very favorable view of the future of our civilization. He recounts the wonderful effects wrought by modern science and the advantages we have over preceding generations: our improved health and prolonged life; our security from irruptions by savage hordes; our safety in travel; our ability, by means of chemistry, to create new products and to originate new industries. All these results, he thinks, are purely beneficent and lasting, and tend to improve the race as well as to make it more comfortable. The ancients perished from mental inanition, "arising from deficiency of fresh and varied intellectual pabulum." They had no "news," and therefore could not take any sustained interest in the course of public events. It is true nervous maladies have greatly increased in our day, but this very fact shows a quickening of the brain, from which we may expect a long succession of great and original men whose intellectual activitites have been aroused as such activities were never aroused before. The ancients invented, but they did not unify and coordinate knowledge. Our civilization is based on the fact that we have done this, and it is therefore probably sound and enduring.

Among those who comment at some length on Sir William's for oration is the London *Spectator*, which has a unique reputation treating subjects of a wide range such as this. It does not attempt to dogmatize, but it calls Sir William's premises and conclusions in question. There were ancients *and* ancients, and while monotony reigned in some places, it is hardly accurate to consider ancient Rome and Greece as under its dismal sway. We have yet to learn that intellectual activity is as great or powerful among us as it was in great sections of the antique world. The average Athenian citizen, according to Freeman, was incomparably abler than the average member of the English Parliament.

Then, coming still more closely to the problem of the rush and bustle of town life and its effects on the mind, *The Spectator* continues as follows:

"Ruskin, in a very characteristic letter to a correspondent, takes a quite different view of all this energy, which seems to him to have no adequate rational end, to expend itself with fury, and to arrive nowhere. His chief enemy, he says, all his life long, has been the 'industry' of mankind; and while others have painted the Devil as incarnate wickedness, Mr. Ruskin paints him as incarnate 'business,' and sees numerous hints of him in the city where rest and peace are unknown. What are we to say when confronted by these opposing views? We may say that rest and meditation tend to goodness without intellect, while bustle tends to intellect without goodness. But this is no solution, for, in the long run, we are firmly persuaded that saints are not made out of stupid people. There is no such absolute divorce as Schopenhauer supposed, between goodness and intellect. Mill is on far truer lines when he argues that character and intellect, roughly speaking, go together. What we think is this: There is much truth in the contention of Sir William Roberts that the stress of modern life develops intellect, but it develops it in the mass, in the average man, and it does not develop it in a profound form. What seems most obvious to us in considering the modern world is, first, the growing dearth of the rarer and deeper kind of intellect; and secondly, the pressure brought to bear by the rising, eager, democratic mass on the few finer minds. We do not produce to-day a Kant or a Spinoza, but clever critics who write about these men, who have read everything, and can give us all the latest views. We have not the deep constructive mind whose operations move in a vast orbit, but we have keen, eager minds which, comet-like, dart into sight, astonish by their luster, and quickly disappear. This tendency may not last, but that it is the tendency of our society to-day can not be doubted. Men will exhaust themselves in attempts to grow rich or to find out new forms of amusement, but who can afford the leisure to grow wise? The mere craze to be talked about, to live in the glare of public opinion, tends to destroy depth, originality, genuine power, which is always solitary. The dominance of the masses, too, with their necessarily low standard of demands, is irritating to the few, even when they can see it is an inevitable stage in progress. . . . The real truth seems to us that the world is so made that we have to pay a heavy price for everything. The Greeks paid a tremendous price for their ultra-individualism and devotion to art and speculative intellect. We are paying, and shall pay more and more, a very high price for our recognition of the supremacy of science, which, after all, does not cover the whole of human life. We have to do not only with that which is, but with that which ought to be, with art and religion, with the twin ideals of right and beauty; and life will never be rounded and whole, civilization will never be secure, until these are coordinated with that keen desire to know which is at the root of our scientific conception of society."

GRANT AND LOGAN.

THE late Charles A. Dana had, as is well known, a keen eye for personal character, and his reminiscences, now running in *McClure's Magazine*, of "Men and Events of the Civil War," promise to contain many interesting observations of a personal sort. Sent to the front by the War Department, in 1863, for the express purpose of observing and reporting all that might be of importance to the Administration to know concerning men and measures in the Union army, he betook himself in April of that year to Grant's army, then besieging Vicksburg. Here is one of the incidents he narrates:

"Later in the evening [April 29, 1863] I left Hard Times [Louisiana] with Grant to ride across the peninsula to De Shroon's. The night was pitch-dark, and, as we rode side by side, Grant's horse suddenly gave a nasty stumble. I expected to see the general go over the animal's head, and I watched intently, not to see if he was hurt, but if he would show any anger. I had been with Grant daily now for three weeks, and I had never seen him ruffled or heard him swear. His equanimity was becoming a curious spectacle to me. When I saw his horse plunge my first thought was, 'Now he will swear.' For an instant his moral status was on trial; but Grant was a tenacious horseman, and instead of going over the animal's head as I imagined he would, he kept his seat. Pulling up his horse he rode on, and, to my utter amazement, without a word or sign of impatience. And it is a fact that tho I was with Grant during the most trying campaigns of the war, I never heard him use an oath."

Here is another incident that illustrates a peculiar feature of Logan's character. It occurred at a time when Grant, learning that Pemberton was on the way from Vicksburg to attack the Union forces quartered in Jackson, Miss., had started to meet him. Pemberton was found in a formidable position on Champion's Hill:

"About eleven o'clock on the morning of the 16th [May, 1863] the battle began, and by four in the afternoon it was won. After the battle I started out on horseback with Colonel Rawlins to visit the field. When we reached Logan's command we found him greatly excited. He declared the day was lost, and that he would soon be swept from his position. I contested the point with him. 'Why, general,' I said, 'we have gained the day.' He could not see it. 'Don't you hear the cannon over there?' he answered. 'They will be down on us right away! In an hour I will have 20,000 men to fight.' I found afterward that this was simply a curious idiosyncrasy of Logan's. In the beginning of a fight he was one of the bravest men that could be—saw no danger—went right on fighting until the battle was over. Then, after the battle was won, his mind gained an immovable conviction that it was lost. Where we were victorious, he thought that we were defeated. It was merely an intellectual peculiarity. It did not in the least impair his value as a soldier or commanding officer. He never made any mistake on account of it."

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BUSINESS SITUATION.

Favorable features of the trade situation are emphasized in reports for the week ending December 18. Of the general situation *Dun's Review* says:

"Close to its annual holiday and halt, the business of the year is surprisingly large. Payments through banks are again 2.5 per cent. larger than in 1892, heretofore the year of greatest prosperity; the production of iron and woolens and boots and shoes is larger than ever before, exports eclipse all past records, and failures for two weeks have been the smallest for corresponding weeks in five years. Treasury receipts show a steady increase for the first half of December over previous months, both in customs and internal revenue, and heavy payments to Government on Union Pacific account caused but slight stringency in money markets, with preparation for large cancelation of bonds. The most weighty news of the week is the rise of merchandise exports in November to $116,630,290, the excess of exports in four months being $229,212,401, while in half of December exports are nearly as large and imports $2,500,000 smaller than last year, when the excess of exports was $58,205,366. Probably all records are surpassed by exports for this year, which have been $974,600,000 in eleven months, and the excess over imports in five months has probably exceeded $289,000,000."

Bradstreet's says: "A sensible quieting of demand in wholesale lines is reported as the holiday season and the annual stock-taking period approach. Chief among the favorable features of the week has been the enlarged inquiry at higher prices for steel in various forms, accompanied by advances in the prices of sorts most affected. A correspondingly heavy business has developed in pig iron, and prices show but a slight shading in face of the immense current production. The wheat market has been less feverish and prices are practically unchanged from a week ago, while corn, oats, and sugar are additions to the list of products showing advances. The unsatisfactory outlook for cotton goods is reflected in reductions in bleached goods to the lowest point ever reached, while some cotton yarns show weakness. Anthracite coal is weak, altho production has been curtailed and talk of further restriction is heard. With these exceptions, the price situation is one of quite exceptional steadiness.

"At the East trade in wholesale lines is quiet, but retail trade has been stimulated sufficiently to allow of a fair reorder business in seasonable lines. The unsatisfactory position of the cotton-goods trade may result in a general movement to reduce wages in New England mills. Against this the employees will propose a partial or general shutdown to reduce some portion of the weight of overproduction now resting on the market. Manufacturers of woolen cloths are running on small margins and look to a change to heavy-weight goods to improve the situation. The trade situation West and Northwest is one of unimpaired strength, altho milder weather checks distribution of winter-wear goods. Notable among favorable features is the improved inquiry at higher prices for several kinds of steel, especially billets and wire and nails. Particular activity is noted at Chicago, St. Louis, and Pittsburg in these lines, while holiday trade remains active and collections are almost uniformly good."

Canadian Trade.—"Mild weather on the coast of Canada and heavy rains in Quebec and Ontario have interfered with wholesale and retail trade alike. The failure of the Labrador fishery this year is reported to be causing poverty in Newfoundland. In Ontario farm produce is moving quite heavily in spite of bad weather, and cold weather is hoped for to help general business. At Montreal wholesale trade is rather light and retail trade has been checked temporarily by heavy rains. The total clearings at six Canadian cities for the week ending Thursday aggregated $26,774,270, an increase of 1 per cent. over last week and 14.5 per cent. over last year. Canadian failures this week number 43 against 23 last week, 39 in the week a year ago and 42 in the year 1895. [*Dun's Review*, 28 to 41 last year]."—*Bradstreet's, December 18.*

PERSONALS.

CASIMIR FELIX BADENI, who recently resigned the premiership of Austria, is the son of a cook. His father, says the New York *Tribune*, who was the chef of one of the last kings of Poland, was created a count. Then his aunt, the famous German actress, Anna Wierer, left him the half of her large fortune. In 1871 he became District Chief of Zolkiew, and two years later entered the Ministry of the Interior. For a time he was attached to the administration of the Statthalter in Galicia, but he retired from his office to care for a large estate that had been intrusted to his management upon the death of his father. In 1888 he was made governor of Galicia, an office he held until he was appointed prime minister of Austria by Emperor Francis Joseph in 1895. He is said to be worth about £500,000.

One of the incidents of the present political disturbances in Austria was a duel on September 25 between Count Badeni and Dr. Wolff, the German Nationalist leader, arising from insults addressed by the latter to the Premier at the previous day's session of the Unterhaus. Count Badeni was wounded in the right arm. The wound was not serious. The bullet entered the wrist and went out above the elbow. Smooth-bore pistols were used, and three shots were to be fired simultaneously at twenty-five paces. Count Badeni was wounded at the first fire.

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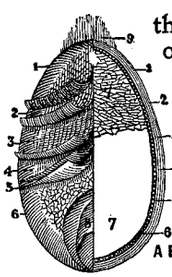

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NERVOUS ASTHMA.

From Dr. Hunter's Lectures on the Progress of Medical Science in Lung Diseases.

Nervous asthma is characterized by wheezing respiration and great difficulty of expelling the air from the lungs. Its name is derived from the Greek, and means to gasp for breath. It occurs in paroxysms or fits, which generally come on after midnight and last until morning. The wheezing sound is produced by a constriction of the smaller bronchial tubes, caused by spasm. The expectoration during the attack is generally frothy, but becomes thicker as the attack passes off.

There are many varieties of asthma, but in pure nervous cases a person goes to bed feeling as well as usual, and drops off quietly to sleep, but is suddenly awakened after midnight by a most distressing attack of want of breath. His chest feels compressed; he breathes with difficulty, and with a rattling or whistling sound; calls for fresh air; his face becomes turgid or livid; his eyes staring, and his skin bathed in perspiration.

Once set up, asthma is very obstinate and tenacious in its hold. It keeps returning in renewed attacks. It occurs at all ages, but is more frequent in women than men. Asthmatic people, for the most part, are nervous and excitable, but gifted with energy, resolution, and attainments beyond the average. Its effects upon the system are very serious. It impoverishes the blood, deranges the circulation, ruptures and dilates the tubes, producing emphysema, and ends in dangerous enlargement of the right side of the heart.

(*To be continued.*)

ROBERT HUNTER, M.D.,
117 West 45th Street.

NOTE.—Readers of THE LITERARY DIGEST who are interested for themselves or friends will receive Dr. Hunter's book free by writing to him at above address.

THE "PEPPERMINT KING."—Hiram G. Hotchkiss, of Wayne County, N. Y., who recently died at the age of eighty-seven years, became famous as the father of the peppermint industry in Wayne County. He began life as a storekeeper, and used to receive small quantities of peppermint oil from the farmers. He tried to sell it to merchants in this city, but in vain. He then sent it to Hamburg, Germany, where it was eagerly bought, and from that day the Wayne County peppermint has come to be known all over the world. "Soon afterward," says the Rochester *Democrat*," "Mr. Hotchkiss gave up storekeeping and removed to Lyons, where he became a grower and distiller on an extensive scale. Wayne-County oil became famous for its purity, and the demand for it continued to grow until the foreign product found but little sale, and that among dealers who used it to adulterate the Wayne-County article. In 1878 Mr. Hotchkiss spent several months in Europe. He was received with great honors in all the leading cities. For many years he has been known as the 'Peppermint King' both in Europe and America."

SOME interesting reminiscences of Bismarck were related recently in a lecture by Herr von Tiedemann before the Historical Society at Posen, Herr von Tiedemann was appointed Chief of the Imperial Chancery (then newly created) in 1878. and held the post till 188[illegible]. During those three years, and also in his former capacity as a reporting counselor, he was in the closest and almost daily intercourse with the Prince, whose confidence he enjoyed. The following facts are quoted from the Berlin correspondence of the London *Standard:* It is well known that Prince Bismarck taxed the strength of his subordinates to the uttermost, and Herr von Tiedemann related an instance of this. One day the Prince asked his reporting counselor whether he was acquainted with the peculiar legal position of Wolff's Telegraph Agency. The counselor had to confess absolute ignorance. "Then pray inform yourself," said the Prince, "and let me have a short memorandum on the subject." There was no hurry about it, he added; "at noon to-morrow would be time enough." In order to fulfil the wish of the Prince, who judged of other men's power of work by his own (which was enormous), it was necessary to work all night.

Unpunctuality the Prince could not endure. Once a German grand duke requested an interview. The Prince sent the answer that it would be a high honor for him to receive the visit at nine in the evening. When the hour approached, he threw off his undress uniform while a report was being delivered to him, and had himself dressed in a new one with decorations. At a quarter-past nine his royal highness the Grand Duke had not yet appeared. The Prince said to his valet: "Bring me my undress coat again, and put away the best one," and sat down at his writing-table. The Grand Duke arrived immediately after, but the Prince is said to have done his best to cut the conversation short.

Current Events.

Monday, December 13.

The Senate agrees to vote on the **immigration bill,** January 17; committee reassignments are made; Senator Platt, of Connecticut, introduces a bill to establish a federal commissioner of insurance. . . . The House passes an **urgent deficiency appropriation** bill. . . . The War Department receives alarming reports of conditions on the **Upper Yukon.** . . . The United States Supreme Court reverses the Boston circuit court in the **Bram murder case.**

A proclamation in Port au Prince announces the composition of the **new Haitian ministry.**

Tuesday, December 14.

The Senate and House after brief sessions adjourn on account of the **funeral of President McKinley's mother,** held in Canton, Ohio. . . . **Democratic** representatives in **caucus** oppose retirement of greenbacks and extension of national bank privileges, indorse a Senate Cuban resolution recognizing a state of war, and favor bankruptcy legislation. . . . The American Federation of Labor, at Nashville, opposes Hawaiian annexation. . . . Notices of a reduction of 11 1-9 per cent. in wages are posted in **Fall River cotton mills.** . . . **John W. Daniel** is reelected United States Senator by the Virginia legislature. . . . Governor Pingree says **3-cent street-car fares** are not a failure in Detroit. . . . The United States circuit court, Chattanooga, upholds the **Interstate Commerce Commission** in the **East Tennessee case.**

General **Blanco grants amnesty** to political exiles from Cuba, and assures them of protection if they return to the island. . . . The German ships *Charlotte* and *Stein* sail from **Port au Prince;** everything is reported to be quiet in the Haitian capital. . . . The entire **Chilian cabinet resigns.**

Wednesday, December 15.

The Senate passes a bill to **prohibit pelagic sealing** by Americans, and the bringing of sealskins into the United States from any source; the report of the **census** committee causes debate on civil service. . . . The House proposes to reduce **pension office clerical force** by 95; salaries $115,000; the proposition of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Vanderlip to establish a **retired list** is debated. . . . **Ex-Secretary** John W. **Foster** gives his views in favor of annexation of **Hawaii.** . . . The indictment against General Agnus, of the Baltimore *American*, on the complaint of Senator Wellington, of Maryland, is "ignored" by the Grand Jury. . . . Albert S. **Warner,** the Albany lawyer arrested in

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BETTER THAN LIFE INSURANCE.

See the "Last Offer Holiday Club" of lots in Prohibition Park at present prices. This park with all of Staten Island has been incorporated in the city of New York. Taxes are light (about $2 per lot) and streets are graded, first sidewalks laid, sewers, electric lights, and water introduced at expense of the park. See Wonderful Holiday Offer, 3d cover.

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Kansas for complicity in the **kidnapping** of young Conway last August, will be extradited. . . . **Southern Bankers** convene in Atlanta, Ga. . . . Theodore **Durrant,** San Francisco, is resentenced to be hanged January 7.

The Kaiser visits Hamburg and Kiel. . . . **General Weyler** has a prolonged audience with the Queen Regent at Madrid. . . . A **bomb** is found **at the American Consulate** at Havana.

Thursday, December 16.

In the Senate Mr. Wolcott states that negotiations for **international bimetalism** are still pending; the treaty for extension of one year to complete the **Mexican boundary** line is ratified. . . . The House passes a **Klondike relief** bill and the Senate bill **to prohibit pelagic sealing** by Americans. . . . The President nominates Attorney-General **Joseph McKenna,** California, **to be Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court**; he nominates Charles G. Dawes, Illinois, to be **Controller of the Currency,** and the Senate confirms the latter. . . . **Secretary Gage** explains his currency bill to the House Committee on Banking and Currency. . . . **Populist representatives** in **caucus** oppose retirement of greenbanks and treasury notes, and enlargement of national bank powers; advocate recognition of independence of Cuba and favor bankruptcy legislation. . . . N. B. Kelly, of Philadelphia. is elected president of the National **Freight Commissioners' Association** at Washington. . . .The **National Board of Trade,** Washington, adjourns.

William Terriss, the well-known actor, is **assassinated** by a discharged "super" in London. . . . **Alphonse Daudet,** the French novelist, **dies.** . . . **Emperor William** visits Prince Bismarck at Friedrichsruh. . . . The **treaty of peace between Greece and Turkey** is ratified by the Sultan and by the King of Greece.

Friday, December 17.

The Senate debates the joint report on the use of **alcohol in the arts**; accepts invitation to take part in Norway's **International Fisheries Exposition** next year; passes 163 private **pension bills.** . . . The House completes consideration of the **legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation bill** except the civil-service paragraph. . . . **Correspondence with Canada** is said to contain President McKinley's consent to embrace other than seal differences in one series of negotiations, if meanwhile a *modus vivendi* against destruction of the herds be agreed upon. . . . The President nominates, among others, Nathan B. Scott, West Virginia, **Commissioner** of **Internal Revenue**; W. W. Thomas, Jr., Maine, **Minister to Sweden** and Norway; Hamilton King, Michigan, **Minister Resident** and Consul-General to **Siam.** . . . **Secretary Gage** continues his explanation of his currency bill. . . . Carl Schurz is reelected president of the **Civil Service Reform League,** at Cincinnati. . . . The appellate division of the New York State supreme court renders a **decision on rapid transit.** . . . **Iron ore carrying trade** on the Great Lakes for the present season amounts to 12,205,000 tons, an increase of 2,003,000 over the record-breaking year of 1895.

Richard Arthur Prince, **assassin** of the actor William **Terriss,** is **arraigned** in Bow Street police court, London, . . . **Alfred Harmsworth,** of London, presents to **Lieutenant Peary** the Arctic steamer *Windward.* . . . **Striking engineers** and London employers reach a provisional agreement.

Saturday, December 18.

Both branches of **Congress adjourn** to January 5. The Senate agrees to the conference report on **Klondike relief** (the President signs the bill, appropriating $200,000 and authorizing the army to carry out the relief measures); adopts a resolution asking department heads about changes in **civil-service** law; increases the appropriation for the **Omaha Exposition.** The House hears **eulogies on** the late **Representative Cooke,** of Illinois; **committee changes** are announced. . . . The **Japanese minister** at Washington says his Government has no designs **on Hawaii.** . . . President McKinley makes several nominations, including **William Penn Nixon** to be **collector of customs at Chicago.** . . . **Pardee Hall,** Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., is badly **damaged by fire.** . . . **Washington Hesing,** ex-postmaster of Chicago, **dies.** . . . Samuel **Gompers is reelected** president of the American Federation of Labor at Nashville.

Trial of the French deputies accused of complicity in the **Panama canal scandals** begins in Paris. . . . A Russian squadron, it is announced at St. Petersburg, has entered Port Arthur with the consent of China, and will winter there. . . . The **tombs of Voltaire and Rousseau** are **opened** in the Pantheon to set at rest a long-standing controversy.

Sunday, December 19.

Senator Chandler writes an open letter declaring that proposed currency legislation will defeat the Republican party, if carried out. . . . **William Lloyd Garrison** delivers a eulogy **on Henry George** in Philadelphia.

Captain-General Marin, of Puerto Rico, will resign because of the inability to get the political factions on the island to agree on autonomy. . . . The **German cruisers** *Deutschland* and *Gefion* arrived off Spithead, England, on their way to **China.** . . . The political situation is grave between **Sweden and Norway.**

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THAT WONDERFUL HOLIDAY CLUB OFFER.

See 3d cover, this week's DIGEST. Eleven new fine residence houses are building in the midst of these lots (in Prohibition Park included in this offer) by Hon. E T. Doyle, late Secretary of the New York State Fish Commission; Hon. Wm. T. Wardwell, Treasurer of the Standard Oil Company; I. K. Funk, President of Funk & Wagnalls Company; Robert Scott, late Secretary of Church of the Strangers, New York; B. F. Funk, President of the Prohibition Park Company, and others.

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CHESS.

All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

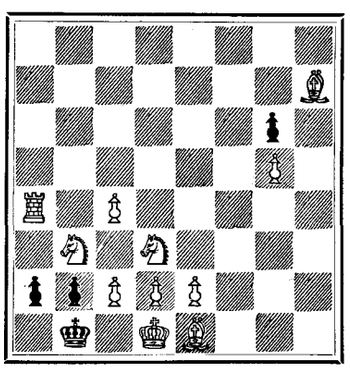
Problem 247.

BY A. SILVESTRE, RIO DE JANEIRO.

This problem was sent to us from an esteemed correspondent in Brazil.

Black—Four Pieces.

K—Q Kt 8; Ps on K Kt 3, Q Kt 7, Q R 7.



White—Eleven Pieces.

K on Q sq; Bs on K sq, K R 7; Kts on Q 3, Q Kt 3; R on Q R 4; Ps on K 2, K Kt 5, Q 2, Q B 2 and 4.
White mates in three moves.

Problem 248.

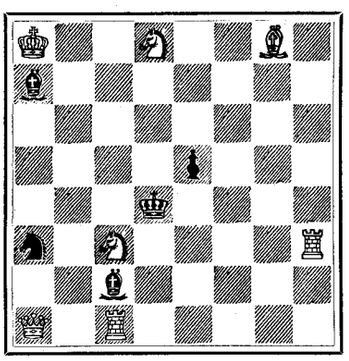
BY P. F. BLAKE.

First Prize *Leeds Mercury* Tournament.

This problem was awarded 100 points by both of the judges, B. G. Laws and James Rayner.

Black—Five Pieces.

K on Q 5; Bs on Q B 7, Q R 2; Kt on Q R 6; P on K 4.



White—Seven Pieces.

K on Q R 8; Q on Q R sq; B on K Kt 8; Kts on Q 8, Q B 3; Rs on K R 3, Q B sq.
White mates in two moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 242.

1.	Q—K Kt sq	2.	Q—Kt 7	3. Kt(B7)-Q6, mate
	K—K sq or K 2		K moves	
1.	.....	2.	Q—R 7	3. Kt(Kt7)-Q6, mate
	K—B sq or B 2		K moves	

Correct solution received from M. W. H., University of Virginia; "Spifflicator," New York City; the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa.; K. B., Philadelphia; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; H. W. Barry, Boston; F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.; C. F. Putney and W. G. Donnan, Independence, Iowa; the Rev. J. A. Younkins, Natrona, Pa.; C. Q. De France, Lincoln, Neb.; J. Eppers, Canal Dover, Ohio; S. Rubino, Glen Lyon, Pa.; the Rev. C. T. Ohlinger, Pawtucket, R. I.; W. J. B., Bethlehem, Pa.; J. G. O'Callaghan, Low Moor, Va.; M. Stivers, Bluefield, W. Va.; R. J. Moore, Riverton, Ala.

Comments: "Very ingenious"—M. W. H. "A corker"—S. "A veritable Gordian knot"—I. W. B. "A Teed-ious study"—K. B. "A difficult problem"—F. S. F. "The idea difficult to illustrate"—H. W. B. "Original in conception"—F. H. J. "A tricky little fellow till you tackle it at both ends"—C. F. P. "Shrewd"—W. G. D. "Unique and interesting"—J. A. Y. "Apparently as easy as rolling off a log, but I worked at it several hours"—C. Q. De F. "Good enough for the convivialities of Christmas"—R. J. M.

Mr. Stivers, C. Q. De France, and "Ramus," Carbondale, Pa., got 241, and F. Kalbfleisch, Indianapolis, 239.

The Correspondence Tourney.

TWENTY-EIGHTH GAME.

Evans Gambit.

F.B. OSGOOD, North Conway, N. H.	THE REV. J. A. YOUNKINS, Natrona, Pa.	F.B. OSGOOD,	THE REV. J. A. YOUNKINS.
White.	*Black.*	*White.*	*Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	20 Q—B 3	Q—Q 5
2 Kt-K B 3	Kt—Q B 3	21 B—K 4	Q R—Q B sq
3 B—B 4	B—B 4	22 Kt—B 5	Kt x Kt
4 P-Q Kt 4	B x P	23 Q x Kt	K—Kt 2
5 P—B 3	B—R 4	24 QxRPch	K—B sq
6 Castles	P—Q 3	25 Q-R 6 ch	K—K 2
7 P—Q 4	P x P	26 B—B 3	B—B 2
8 P x P	B—Kt 3	27 P—R 3	B—K 4
9 B—Kt 2	Kt—B 3	28 Q R-K sq	Q—B 6
10 P—Q 5	Kt—K 2 (a)	29 Q—K 3	Q—Kt 5
11 BxKt (b)	P x B	30 B—Kt 4	R—B 2
12 P-QR4(c)	P—B 3 (d)	31 P—B 4	P—Q B 4
13 P x P	P x P (e)	32 P x B	P—B 4
14 Kt—R 4	B—K 3	33 R x P	R—K Kt 2
15 Kt—R 3	Castles (f)	34 P—K 6	P—B 3
16 B x B	K—R sq (g)	35 QR-KBsq	Q—Kt 7
17 B—R 2	P—Q 4 (h)	36 Q—R 6	R x B
18 B—Kt sq	R—K Kt sq	37 P x R	Q x Kt
19 P x P	Q x P	38 R x P	Resigns.

Notes by One of the Judges.

(a) Kt—Kt sq is best.

(b) Not good thus to open Black's Kt's file. Black has now the preferable game.

(c) Kt—R 4 or Q 4 is better.

(d) Black throws away his chances of a win. R—K Kt sq should have been played at once, giving a very strong attack. No danger in the advance of the R P. The text-move opens up the Q file, and gives White an advantage.

(e) The Kt should take P.

(f) Q—Q 2, or B—Kt 5 first, and R—Kt sq, with a fine game.

(g) Difficult to understand. P x B, with still a good position. If 16 .., P x B; 17 Q—Kt 4 ch, K—B 2, and Black ought to win.

(h) Further comment unnecessary. Black may as well resign here. From this point, White's conduct of the game is very fine.

TWENTY-NINTH GAME.

Ruy Lopez.

NELSON HALD, Donnebrog, Neb.	PROF. A. S. HITCHCOCK, Manhattan, Kan.	NELSON HALD.	PROF. A. S. HITCHCOCK.
White.	*Black.*	*White.*	*Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	20 R x R (i)	P x R
2 Kt-K B 3	Kt—Q B 3	21 B—B 4	B—Q 3
3 B—Kt 5	Kt—B 3	22 R-K B sq	B—Kt 2 (j)
4 Castles	Kt x P	23 B—K 5	P—B 4
5 P—Q 4	Kt—Q 3	24 B x B (k)	P x B
6 B x Kt	Kt P x B	25 P x P	P x P
7 Kt x P (a)	B—K 2	26 P—Q R 3	Q—Kt 3
8 Kt-Q B 3	Castles	27 R—B 2	R—K B sq
9 P—B 4	Kt—B 4 (b)	28 R x R ch	K x R
10 Q—Q 3	Kt—Q 3 (c)	29 Q-B 2 ch	K—Kt sq
11 P—B 5	P—B 3	30 Q—Q 2	K—R 2
12 Kt-Kt6(d)	P x Kt	31 Q—B 2	Q—Kt 4 (l)
13 P x P	Q—K sq	32 P—K R 3	P—K 4
14 Q-Kt 3 (e)	P—K B 4	33 K—R 2	Q—B 5 ch
15 R-K sq (f)	Kt—K 5	34 K—Kt sq	Q x Q ch
16 Kt x Kt	P x Kt	35 K x Q	K—Kt 3
17 Q-Kt4(g)	R—B 3	36 P—Q Kt 4	P—B 5
18 R x P	R x P	37 P—B 3	K—Kt 4
19 Q—K 2	R—K 3 (h)	38 P—Kt 3	K—B 4
		39 P—Q R 4	K—K 5
		40 Resigns.	

Notes by One of the Judges.

(a) A novelty, not to be recommended. P x P is the usual play.

(b) P—B 3 is plainly indicated.

(c) Retreating the Kt is loss of time. P—B 3 is better. If 11 Q x Kt, P—Q 4; 12 Kt x P, B x Q; 13 Kt x Q, Q R x Kt, and altho Black is a P behind he has the better game.

(d) Not sound. White probably overlooked Black's reply, 13 .., Q—K sq.

(e) White's best continuation is to advance the K R P. The text-move enables Black to win the P and to establish a strong attack.

(f) B—Kt 5 evidently stronger. He must lose the P, and the sooner he gets his Q R into play, the better.

(g) Why not R x P?

(h) Black plays skilfully. The exchange weakens White.

(i) B—B 4, is better. If 20 .., R x R, 21 Q x R, P—K 4; 22 Q—K 2, B—Kt 2 or Q 2; 23 B—Kt 5, K—B 2; 24 R—B sq ch, etc.

(j) A *coup de repos*, but fine.

(k) Strengthening Black's already strong game. Q—Kt 4 would give better results.

(l) Now, White may as well resign gracefully.

THIRTIETH GAME.

Evans Gambit.

W. W. GORDON, JR., Savannah.	P. A. VANSAGNEW, Kissimmee, Fla.	W. W. GORDON, JR.	P. A. VANSAGNEW.
White.	*Black.*	*White.*	*Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	4 P-Q Kt 4	B x P
2 Kt-K B 3	Kt—Q B 3	5 P—B 3	B—R 4
3 B—B 4	B—B 4	6 P—Q 4	P—Q 3
		7 Castles	Kt—B 3
		8 P—Q 5	Resigns.

No comment necessary.

"Chess for Beginners."

Mr. R. F. Foster has written a little book dealing with the first principles of Chess. It is for those who desire to begin at the beginning. Most books on Chess demand not only *some* knowledge of the game, but also considerable experience in actual play. The beginner can not understand the *application* of principles when he doesn't know anything about the principles. We believe that this little book supplies a demand for something not too technical and not too advanced. Mr. Foster does not give any of the various openings. What he says on the usual method of teaching a beginner the "openings" is worth quoting: "The trouble with all these openings is that they depend upon the adversary's making certain moves; if he does not do so, the beginner is all at sea. . . . In the opinion of the author, this manner of studying the openings is very discouraging to the beginner, and it would be much better for him to content himself with the simplest elements of development, gradually increasing his knowledge as his experience increases in practice." The book is gotten up in most dainty style, and is published by Brentano's.

"Holiday Chess Tournament."

The Winter Tournament of the New York State Chess-Association will be held in the rooms of the Citizens' Club, Syracuse, on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 28 and 29. Play will begin promptly at 2 P.M., Tuesday. All Chess-players in New York outside of Syracuse are invited to take part in this Tournament. The local committee has secured a special rate of $1.50 per day at the St. Cloud Hotel. Players are requested to meet in the Citizens' Club rooms on Tuesday morning for organization, and they are, also, asked to bring boards, men, and Chess-clocks, if practicable. This is the first Holiday Chess Tournament of the Association, and the Provisional Committee expresses the hope that the Chess-players of the State, especially those of the northern and central sections, will, by their "attendance and support," make this a grand success.

Chess-Players of the World.

Reichelm, in *The Times*, Philadelphia, estimates the number of Chess-players belonging to Chess-clubs, in Europe and America, at 481,200, or, in round numbers, 500,000. He divides them into five classes, putting in Class A all those who are too strong to receive odds of Pawn and move from Lasker, as follows:

Class A—200 players.
Class B—Pawn and move, 1,000 players.
Class C—Pawn and two move, 5,000 players.
Class D—Odds of Knight, 25,000 players.
Class E—Rook, or weaker, 450,000 players.

It is evident that he puts Lasker in a class by himself.

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Becomes part of New York city Jan. 1—Prices will advance.

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Fare from the foot of Broadway, **10 cents.**

Because of the unprecedented demand for admission into this Holiday Club we have concluded to extend the limit of membership to **100** instead of **50**, and the time to January 5th, **to give those who live at a distance a chance to become members of the Club. Remember,** January 5th the Club will positively close and prices will be raised.

The Thanksgiving Club offer showed that a large number of people are looking for safe and profitable investments.

This **HOLIDAY OFFER** will be the last time that choice lots in Prohibition Park (Westerleigh) can be purchased for $375 (the price of suburban lots in small country towns). The Park becomes part of New York city January 1.

Upwards of one hundred lots have been sold in sixty days. More than one lot each day.

☞ The sale has been phenomenal and without precedent. **Many new houses are being erected right in the midst of these lots** that are being offered for sale to members of the Holiday Club by such men as Hon. Wm. T. Wardwell, Treasurer of the Standard Oil Company; I. K. Funk, D.D., President Funk & Wagnalls Company; Hon. E. P. Doyle, president of the New York and Staten Island Electric Company; Robert Scott, Secretary of Prohibition Park Company; Rev. Edward Morris, of Massachusetts; Hon. W. W. Calkins, of Minnesota; Rev. Wm. Campbell, of Michigan, etc., etc. Dr. Carlos Martyn, author of "Wendell Phillips," etc., is erecting a residence for himself in the Park; Dr. Louis A. Banks, of Cleveland, has just finished his second house.

Nearly one hundred houses now in the Park, and rarely is there one vacant. Never was the Park prospering as now.

100 Lots TO MEMBERS OF THIS CLUB AT THE EXCEEDINGLY LOW PRICE OF $375 Each

Can you not spare $5 a month by a little economy? If so, you can make no better nor safer investment than to buy a lot in Prohibition Park (Westerleigh) at this special offer. It is safer and better than most of other investments; because it is backed by the greatest metropolis in the world. A city increasing in population more than 100,000 every year. Manhattan Island (New York proper) is crowded to its utmost. The overflow has gone north until it reaches 23 miles north of the City Hall and Post-Office. At last the gates have been broken down that have isolated Staten Island so long from New York. Five-cent Ferryboats at short intervals (70 trips a day), and rapid transit, and network of railroads, have overcome all obstacles to Staten Island, which lies only six miles from the City Hall—only across the bay. This beautiful, picturesque spot will rapidly fill up.

Real estate north of City Hall as far as Prohibition Park is south is selling at 10 to 20 times the prices asked for lots in this special offer.

GREAT BOOM FORESEEN.

Syndicates of wealthy and far-seeing business men have spent several millions of dollars in building two of the finest systems of electric roads on Staten Island that can be found anywhere. These shrewd men foresee the great boom that is coming, and are said to be quietly buying large quantities of the best land they can get. . . . "More than a million dollars have been spent on the county roads, which are now the finest in the State."—*New York Journal*, October 10, 1897.

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At the present rate of increase **IN TEN YEARS NEW YORK CITY WILL HAVE A POPULATION OF ONE MILLION MORE THAN NOW.**

A city the size of Brooklyn will be added to the population. **WHERE WILL THEY LIVE?** Staten Island is the only easily available region that is not already overcrowded. It surely does not require much of a mathematician to demonstrate approximately what the value of lots in Prohibition Park will then be. That they will be worth 500 per cent. and upward more than they now cost is as certain as gravity or the multiplication table.

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No plan for the purchase of a lot can be more simple, and no terms of payment can be more easy—only $5 a month, including interest at the low legal rate of 6 per cent. per annum. A lot thus purchased in Prohibition Park, which is one of the MOST DESIRABLE RESIDENCE PORTIONS OF GREATER NEW YORK, will be worth, without a reasonable doubt, in a few years very many times what it cost. Where can a surer, safer, and more profitable investment be made? It is AS SAFE AS AN INVESTMENT IN GOVERNMENT BONDS, with an assurance of greater returns. The Park is only 8 miles from New York City Hall, Post-Office, etc. (the city extends more than 20 miles in the opposite direction), and it is a part of Greater New York city, which has a population of nearly 4,000,000 and is increasing at the rate of 100,000 annually.

Send your order at once, with $6, to the National Prohibition Park Company, and the President and Secretary will select the best of the unsold lots of this special offer.

IF YOU ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH THE SELECTION FOR ANY REASON, YOU CAN AT ANY TIME EXCHANGE YOUR LOT FOR ANY OTHER UNSOLD LOT ON AN EQUITABLE BASIS. THESE LOTS ARE 40 FEET FRONT (WIDE).

☞ If you will buy your boy or girl one of these lots as a holiday present, in a few years he or she will be the owner of a New York city lot worth many times what you paid for it. Make your wife a present. What better Christmas or New Year's present to any relative? It is a present that will grow.

ARE YOU SAVING FIVE DOLLARS A MONTH?

If you buy a lot in Prohibition Park **at the low price of $375 and pay for it in Monthly Payments of $5,** is there any reason why you should hesitate? Every frugal person should save from his income at least $5 to $10 a month. **Are You doing it?** If not, **Begin Now** by putting that amount in a lot in Prohibition Park, where it will be deposited as the **Safest and Best Investment** that you can make. The price of these lots will be higher soon.

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Five years ago there was not an electric railway on Staten Island. The Midland Electric Road, which passes the Park on two sides, with direct communications to all ferries, and to the beautiful Midland Beach (fare to any point, five cents), carried this last summer season over **1,200,000** passengers.

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DR. J. H. KELLOGG AND THE PARK HOTEL.

Dr. J. H. Kellogg, superintendent of the world-renowned Battle Creek Sanitarium, will have charge of the Park Hotel next summer, and will conduct it on the plan of the famous Hygienic Hotel at Battle Creek, Mich. He and his "helpers" will give lectures on dietetics, and hygienic living, massage, bathing, etc. He will introduce some of the baths, as the Electric Light Baths, etc., which have made the Battle Creek Sanitarium famous.

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The new Westerleigh Collegiate Institute, less than three years old, has a corps of twelve teachers, and is now crowded to its utmost capacity, and will have to be enlarged next year.

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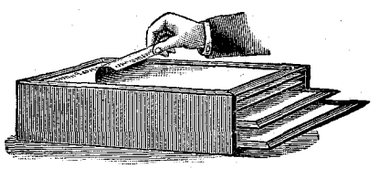

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